

*South Brooklyn*



Gc  
977.102  
C594c  
1732132


M. L.

REYNOLDS HISTORICAL  
GENEALOGY COLLECTION



GEN  
E-4609

ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY



3 1833 02279 7598

Chro  
Item

XON  
LON

W





*South Brooklyn*

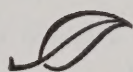






# *South Brooklyn*

*A brief history of that part of the city  
of Cleveland which lies south of Big  
Creek and west of the Cuyahoga River*



*Published at James Ford Rhodes High School  
Cleveland 9, Ohio*

*1946*



*Copyright*  
*James Ford Rhodes High School*  
*Cleveland 9, Ohio*  
*1946*

2061 AVIATION CO. LTD.  
OF  
THE GREAT BRITAIN



1732132

## FOREWORD

*THIS book is a contribution of James Ford Rhodes High School to the Cleveland Sesquicentennial celebration. The James Ford Rhodes High School district embraces most of the territory which was included in the village of South Brooklyn at the time of its annexation by Cleveland. As a consequence our study has been confined primarily to this small but important section of the city. It is our hope that the brief story we present here, with the accompanying maps and pictures, may be of some interest and value to the people of this community, particularly to those whose families, friends or neighbors link them with the Brooklyn of the past.*

#10.00 - Mail order PRR - 2-15-73 Hayman







# C O N T E N T S

## PART I—INTRODUCTION

The Western Reserve

Cleveland and Cuyahoga County

Brooklyn Township



## PART II—SOUTH BROOKLYN

Early History—Brighton Village

Incorporation as South Brooklyn

Annexation by Cleveland

Development of Modern Community Life







PART I  
INTRODUCTION





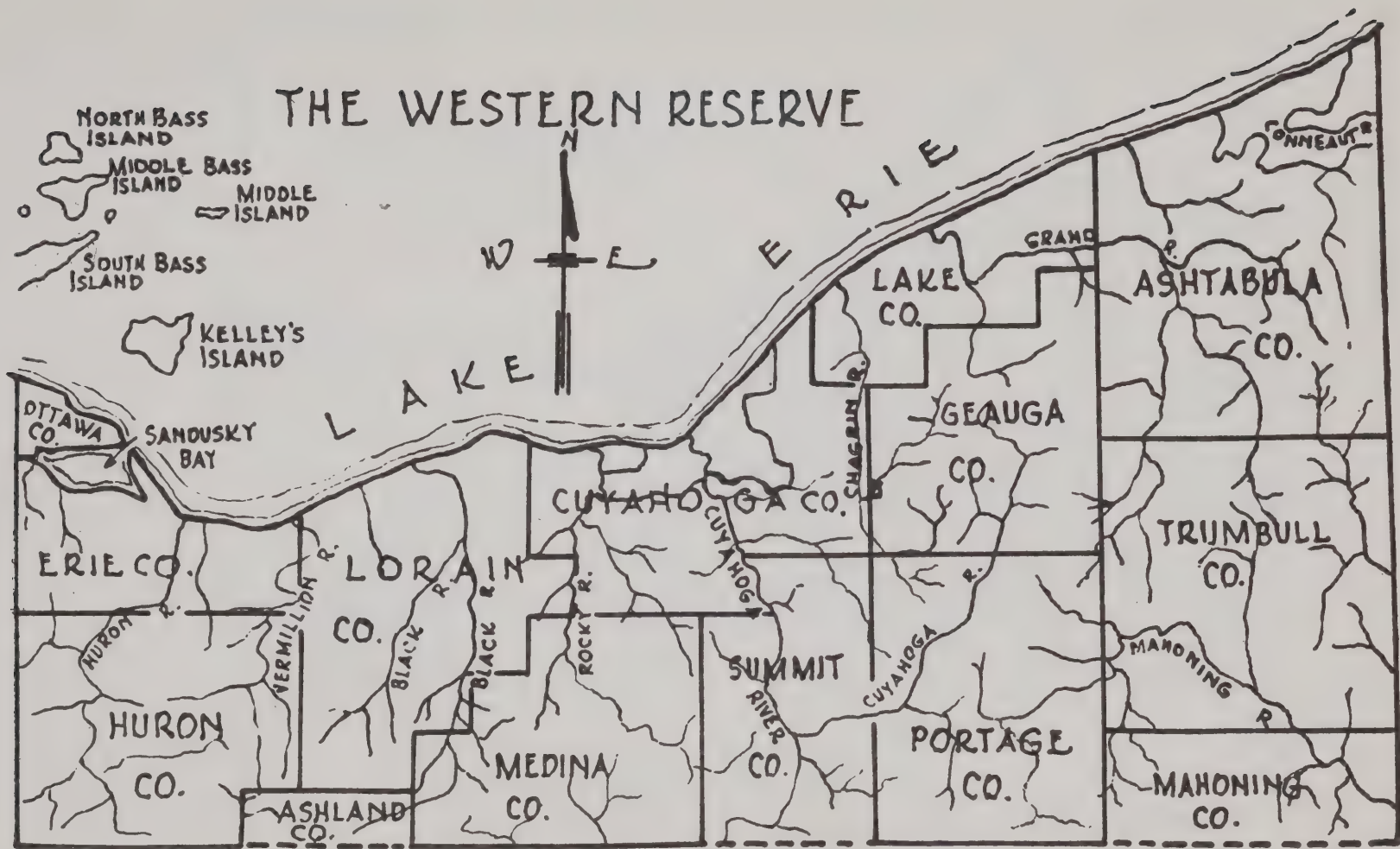


*The Western Reserve, 1796*

John C. Winston Co.

3 1833 02279 7598





Cleveland Public Schools

*The Western Reserve*



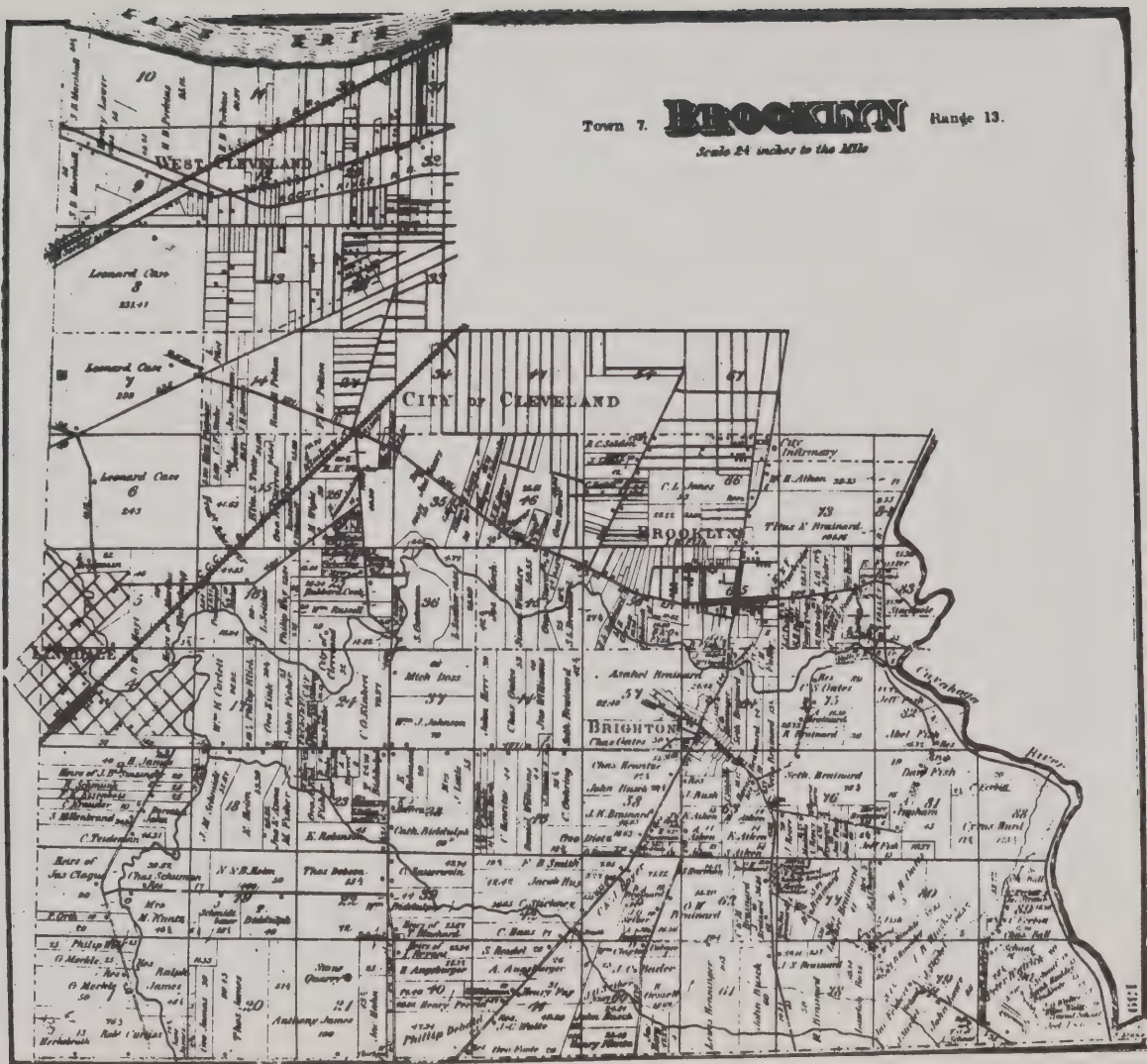


Scale 2 Miles to an Inch









Brooklyn Township, 1874





## INTRODUCTION

The early English and French colonial traders who pushed into the unknown West beyond the Alleghenies, reached the mouth of the Cuyahoga river sometime between 1700 and 1750. They made small clearings in the forest, built temporary cabins, and carried on their trade with the Indians. When their Indian customers moved on to seek better hunting grounds, the traders abandoned their cabins and followed, to establish their posts in more convenient and more profitable locations. Usually within a year all that remained as evidence that such posts had existed were weed and briar covered open spaces of an acre or two in the wilderness.

Between 1750 and the close of the Revolutionary War in 1781, more and more pioneers pushed westward with their families in search of new and permanent locations for their homes. The economic and political importance of the land to the west became increasingly apparent as these migrations continued. The newly established states along the Atlantic coast soon began to quarrel over the territory which lay to the west between the Ohio river and Lake Erie. Several of them, because of grants received prior to the Revolution, made conflicting claims to land in this area. The states which had received no such grants, fearing the power which their neighboring states might develop as these new lands were settled, demanded that all lands about which there were conflicting claims be turned over to the new national government to be used as a source of income to pay off the national debt. All of the states involved finally consented, and made the transfer of

their claims to the Federal Government with the understanding that the new states, which it was assumed eventually would be formed from these territories, would be admitted to the Union.

While still a colony of England, Connecticut had been granted by King Charles II the territory lying between the same parallels as those which marked her own boundaries and extending from the Atlantic to the Pacific. When she, along with the other states, agreed to relinquish her claims on this territory to the United States, she was permitted to reserve that portion lying between the parallels of forty-one and forty-two degrees two minutes, and extending to a line one hundred twenty miles west of the western line of Pennsylvania and parallel with it. This "reserved" tract contained nearly three and a half million acres and was called the Western Reserve or New Connecticut. It extended to the western boundaries of the present Erie and Huron counties. These two counties and a small portion of Ottawa county were formed from the half million acres known as the "Fire Land of Connecticut." This Fire Land was so called because in 1792 this territory was given by Connecticut to the inhabitants of New London as a consequence of the fact that Benedict Arnold, the traitor, had entered their harbor and burned the city during the Revolution.

In May 1795, the remaining land in the Western Reserve was placed on sale for "not less than one million dollars," or about forty cents per acre, "No portion of this acreage to be sold until enough purchasers were on hand to take it all." By September of the same year enough persons had presented themselves to take the whole tract at one million two hundred thousand dollars. The thirty-five purchasers associated themselves into an organization known as the Connecticut Land Company and for convenience in the transaction of business assigned the management of their affairs to



a board of seven directors. The company articles of association authorized the directors "to procure an extinguishment of the Indian title to said Reserve, and to lay the same out into townships containing sixteen thousand acres each; to fix on a township in which the first settlement shall be made, to survey that township into small lots in such manner as they shall think proper, and to sell and dispose of said lots to actual settlers only, and to erect in said township a sawmill and a gristmill at the expense of said company." The board of directors selected one of their own members, General Moses Cleaveland, a lawyer from Canterbury, Connecticut, to survey these western lands and plan for settlements of them.

General Cleaveland and his survey party left Connecticut in May, 1796. They reached the shores of Lake Erie by way of the famous Mohawk Trail and set forth by open boat for the Western Reserve. Proceeding slowly along the southern shore of the lake, they reached a stream they thought was the Cuyahoga, but soon the mistake was discovered and according to legend General Cleaveland was so disappointed because of the delay in finding the larger river that he named the creek Chagrin. However, most historians insist that it received its name from an Indian appellation and not from Moses Cleaveland.

Going back to the lake the party rowed westward and on the morning of July 22, 1796, they passed into the mouth of the Cuyahoga river and landed on its eastern bank. The name Cuyahoga is said to signify in the Indian language "crooked," a term significant of the winding course of the river and the fact that its source is farther north than its mouth. Leaving their boat stuck in the marsh at the river mouth, the party climbed a steep bluff and gazed out over a broad and beautiful wooded plain lying about eighty feet above Lake Erie, and stretching away to the east, west, and south. Cleave-

land was impressed with the natural advantages of this location, with its extensive river flats and surrounding uplands, and he and his party decided to lay out a town here which would be the capital of the Western Reserve. When he returned to Connecticut in October 1796, he reported: "While I was in New Connecticut I laid out a town on the bank of Lake Erie which was called by my name; and I believe the child is now born that may live to see this place as large as Old Windham."

The only persons left behind by the survey party to spend the winter in the new settlement of Cleaveland were Job Stiles, his wife, and a trader named Joseph Landon. Landon soon left and his place was taken by Edward Paine, also a trader, later known as General Paine of Painesville. Tradition asserts that the first white child born in this county came to light in the cabin of Job and Tabitha Stiles in the winter of 1796-97, and that a squaw acted as its nurse.

The first inhabitants of the early Cleveland settlement built their homes upon the flat land at the mouth of the river and cleared space in the upper flats and surrounding high land for raising grain and other food. They soon found, however, that the low land near the river mouth was unhealthful and moved to higher ground, some migrating to Newburgh where the grist mill was located, others to Brooklyn, leaving the flats to commerce and trade.

Cleaveland grew rapidly. It was incorporated as a village in 1814 and became a city in 1836. Cuyahoga county was created in 1807 and Cleveland was made its county seat. Just how the letter "a" was dropped from the name Cleaveland is an unsolved mystery. Some say it was due to the fact that the first completed map of the city made by Seth Pease was labeled "The City of Cleveland." However, the newspaper "The Cleaveland Herald" did not drop the letter from its masthead until 1832. Prior to that date, the "Cleaveland Advertiser"



was published and according to General A. S. Sanford, an old settler and printer of that period, this paper is responsible for dropping the "a." His story is that a stock of paper brought from a mill not far from the city on one occasion was found to be too narrow to allow for the customary width masthead, so the letter "a" was omitted, and has remained out ever since.

The territory of the Western Reserve was laid out by the surveyors of the Connecticut Land Company, as follows: Using the forty-first parallel of latitude as a base, a line was extended due west from the Pennsylvania line one hundred twenty miles; from this base, lines of longitude five miles apart were projected due north to Lake Erie; these in turn were crossed by east and west lines five miles apart, thus making townships five miles square except those made irregular by the lake shore. The townships were numbered from 1 to 24 as ranges, counting from the Pennsylvania line, and as tiers or townships from the base line northward. When the fourth draft of the lands, under the auspices of the Connecticut Land Company occurred in April 1807, the township which later was called Brooklyn was drawn. It was township number 7 in range 13.

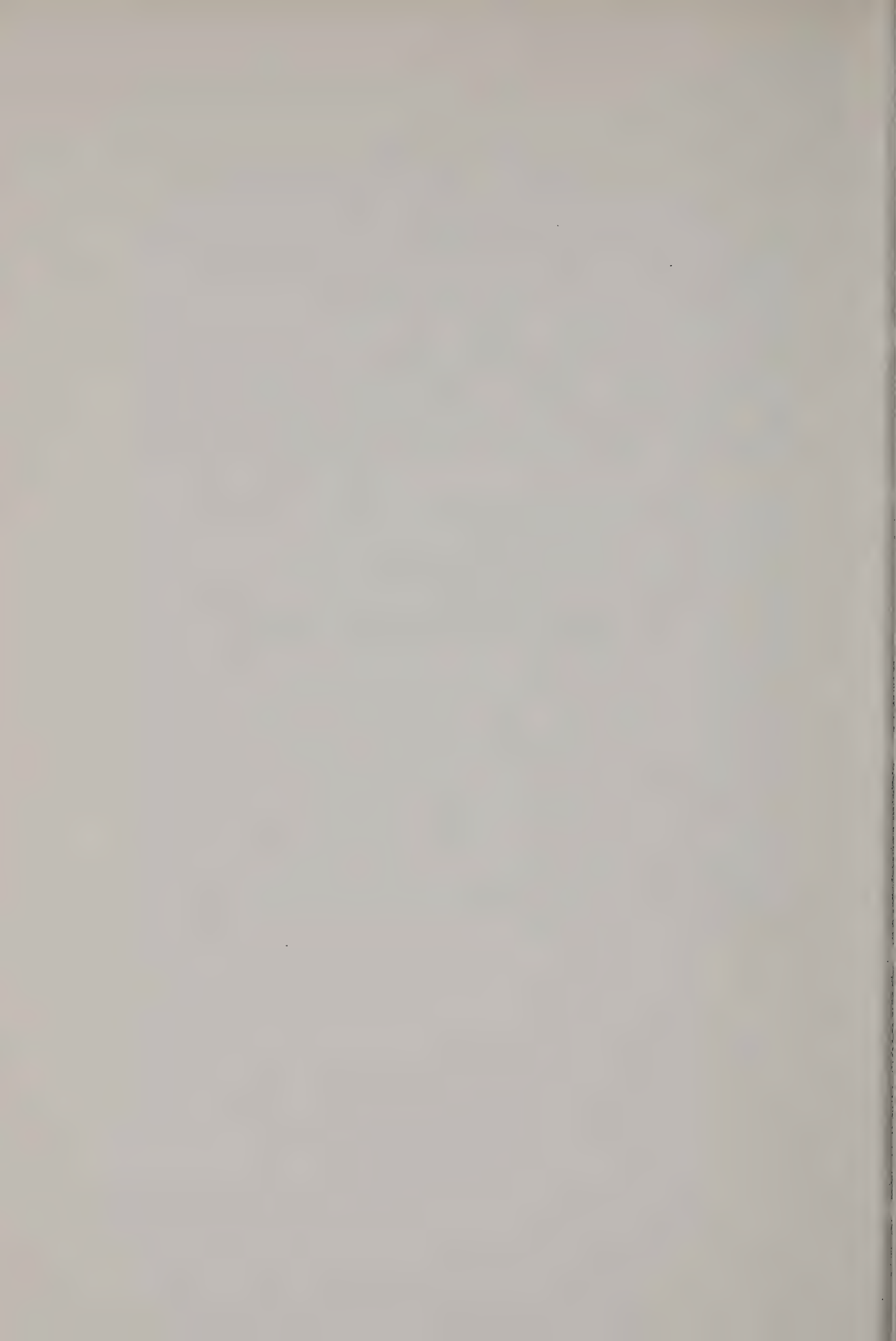
Exactly when the first white resident of Brooklyn township made his appearance is not known. There was, however, near the present Riverside Cemetery, a grassy slope running up from the Cuyahoga river, which even in late years, was known as "Grangers Hill." "Here came, from Canada, one Granger, who became a squatter." But at what date is not certainly known, and within a few years (1815) he had moved on. However, he was there when James Fish, in May 1812, became the first permanent settler of the future Brooklyn township. James Fish came from Groton, Connecticut. He left there in the summer of 1811 with his family in a wagon drawn by oxen. He was accom-

panied by quite a company of pioneers and spent forty-seven days upon the road. He passed the winter in Newburgh and early in the spring of 1812 crossed over to Brooklyn, erected a log-house at a cost of eighteen dollars, and in May took his family over and commenced housekeeping. In the same year came Moses and Ebenezer Fish, and in 1813 came Ozias Brainard of Connecticut with his family, while in 1814, six families arrived as settlers within one week—those of Isaac Hinckley, Asa Brainard, Elijah Young, Stephen Brainard, Enos Brainard, and Warren Brainard, all of whom had been residents of Chatham, Middlesex County, Connecticut.

Brooklyn township was organized on June 1, 1818 and originally embraced "all that part of Cleveland situated on the west side of the Cuyahoga river excepting a farm owned by Alfred Kelley." At the time of its organization Captain Oziah Brainard suggested the name of Egypt, "because like Egypt so much corn was raised here," but his proposal was rejected in favor of the name Brooklyn not, as was stated, to honor the place of that name in New York but because it "sounded well." Out of the territory included in the original Brooklyn township developed several separate municipalities: Ohio City, West Cleveland, early Brooklyn Village, Brighton (South Brooklyn), Linndale, Brooklyn Heights, and the present Brooklyn Village. The first four now have become part of Cleveland while the latter three exist as independently incorporated villages.



PART II  
SOUTH BROOKLYN



## SOUTH BROOKLYN

One of the oldest of the Brooklyn township municipalities was Brighton village which originally was laid out upon land from the farm of Warren Young. In 1838 Samuel Barstow initiated action which resulted in the following enactment by the Ohio General Assembly:

*An Act to Incorporate the Village of Brighton in the  
County of Cuyahoga*

Section 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio, that so much of the Township of Brooklyn in the County of Cuyahoga, as is comprised within the following limits, viz:—beginning at the northwest corner of land owned by Elijah S. Young, on lot number 64; thence west to the northeast corner of land owned by Abial Cushman, known as the Clark lot, and being on lot number 57; thence south to the northwest corner of land owned by Job Brainard, being also, on lot 57; thence east, on said line, to the northeast corner of said Brainard land; thence continuing east to the land of said Elijah S. Young; thence north, on Elijah S. Young's west line, to the place of beginning, be, and the same is hereby created a town corporate, and shall be hereafter known by the name of the village of Brighton.

Section 2. That for the good government of said corporation and the inhabitants thereof, there shall be elected, on the second Monday of April, annually, thereafter, a mayor, recorder, five trustees, an assessor, a treasurer, a street commissioner, a marshal, and such other officers as the town council shall create, and not otherwise provided for their appointment; the above named officers shall severally take the oath prescribed by the constitution of the State, and shall hold offices for one year, and until their successors are elected and qualified; a failure to elect on said second Monday in April shall not work a forfeiture of the charter, but an election may be held on some subsequent day, ten days' notice being given thereof.



Section 3. States how the election shall be held.

Section 4. States who shall be the election officials.

Section 5. States that, the mayor, recorder, and trustees shall constitute the town council, and shall be body politic and corporate, with perpetual succession, by the name and style of "The Town Council of Brighton" and, as such, may sue and be sued, plead, etc., etc. . . .

Sections 6 to 16, inclusive describe the proceedings and duties of the council and various officers.

Enacted

March 5, 1838

C. Anthony  
Speaker of the House  
of Representatives

George J. Smith  
Speaker of the Senate

On February 16, 1839, the act incorporating the village of Brighton was repealed by the General Assembly and the community returned to the township organization although the name Brighton has persisted even to this day.

Charles G. Foltz, whose father was pastor of Archwood Congregational Church from 1846 to 1849, came with his family to live in Brighton in 1846 at the age of nine. In 1919, at the age of eighty-three, Mr. Foltz read a paper before the centennial celebration of Archwood Church, from which the following interesting comments on his boyhood days in Brighton are quoted:

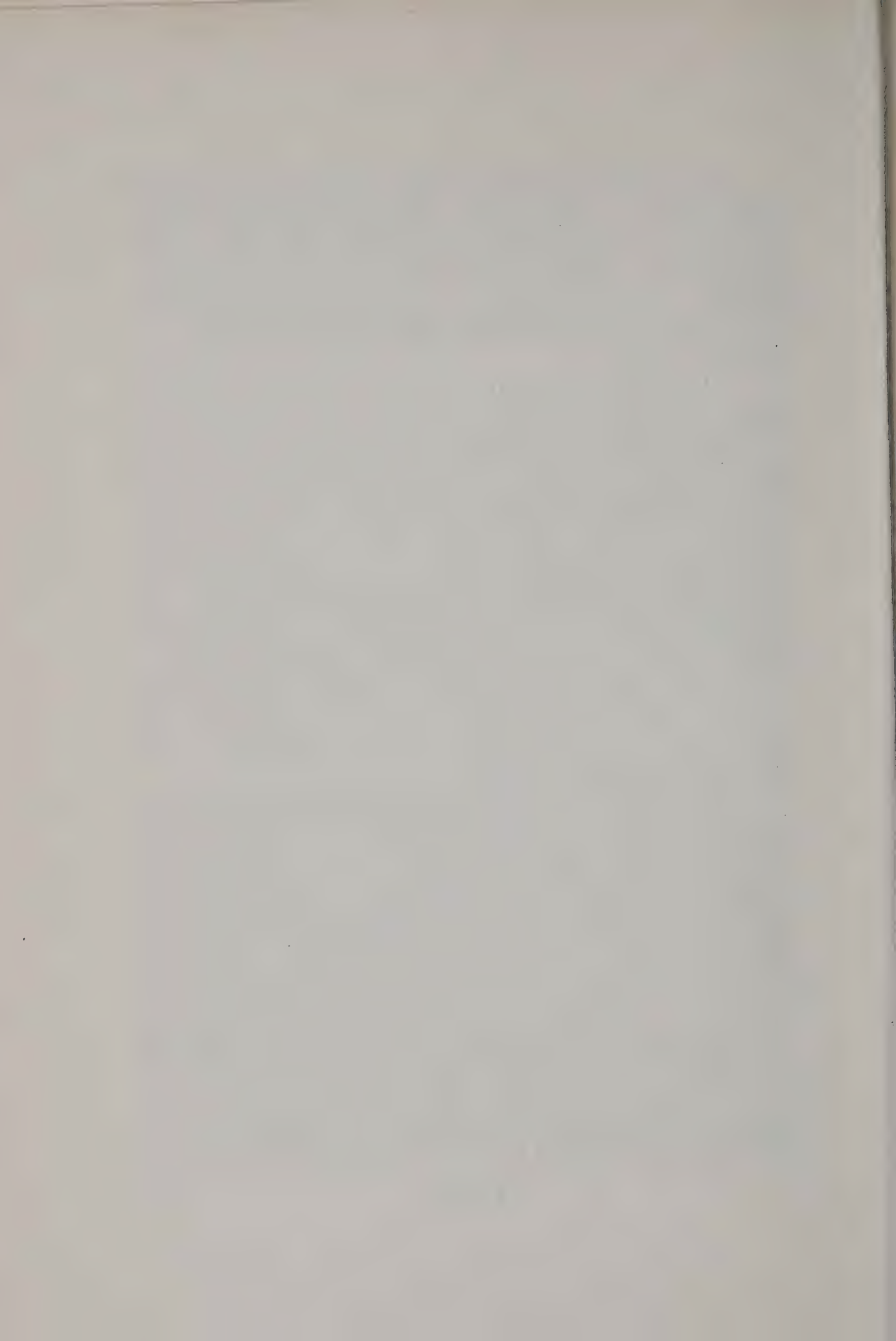
"My father, the Reverend Benjamin Foltz, was born in Frankfort, New York, on May 26, 1813. He attended Lane Seminary in Cincinnati for a while and I believe was one of the seceders from that institution when the trustees penned a rule forbidding the discussion of the slavery question. He was an ardent anti-slavery man and a co-worker with leading abolitionists. From Lane Seminary he went to Oberlin College, being

graduated from the theological course in 1836. During the next ten years, he was pastor of churches in central New York. In the fall of 1846 he accepted a call to minister to this and the Brighton churches. The journey to Ohio was made by packet boat on the Erie Canal to Buffalo, and by steamboat from there to Cleveland. Our home was in Brighton during the three years we lived in Ohio.

"I was too young to be able now to recall any of father's sermons, even to remember a text, though I was a regular attendant—had to be, as the parson's son, a good example to others. The impression made upon me of his manner and style of preaching was that he was forcible, earnest, impressing God's claims upon sinners, and the woeful consequences of disregarding them, explaining this more than the lovable side of the Divine nature, as a Father gracious and merciful—in fact, what might be called now rather old-fashioned theology. I state this from memory impressions and from some of his sermons that came into my possession. I have with me here some of them that are marked Brooklyn and Brighton. In his later years he became much more liberal in his religious views.

"I remember often going with father to the Brooklyn Church, down one hill, crossing the river bridge, and up the opposite hill, to what seemed to me to be a large commodious church building. I have little other recollection of Brooklyn except that one winter an evangelist from Cleveland by the name of Avery assisted in a protracted meeting. I know it was the winter season, for I suffered so with chilblains I had to take off my shoes right in meeting to ease my feet. So you see that cold feet, chilblains, and a protracted meeting are my most vivid remembrances of your church.

"I halt here in what else I have to relate of my father, to give a few memories of our Brighton home life and neighbors. Our house was on a 'cul-de-sac'



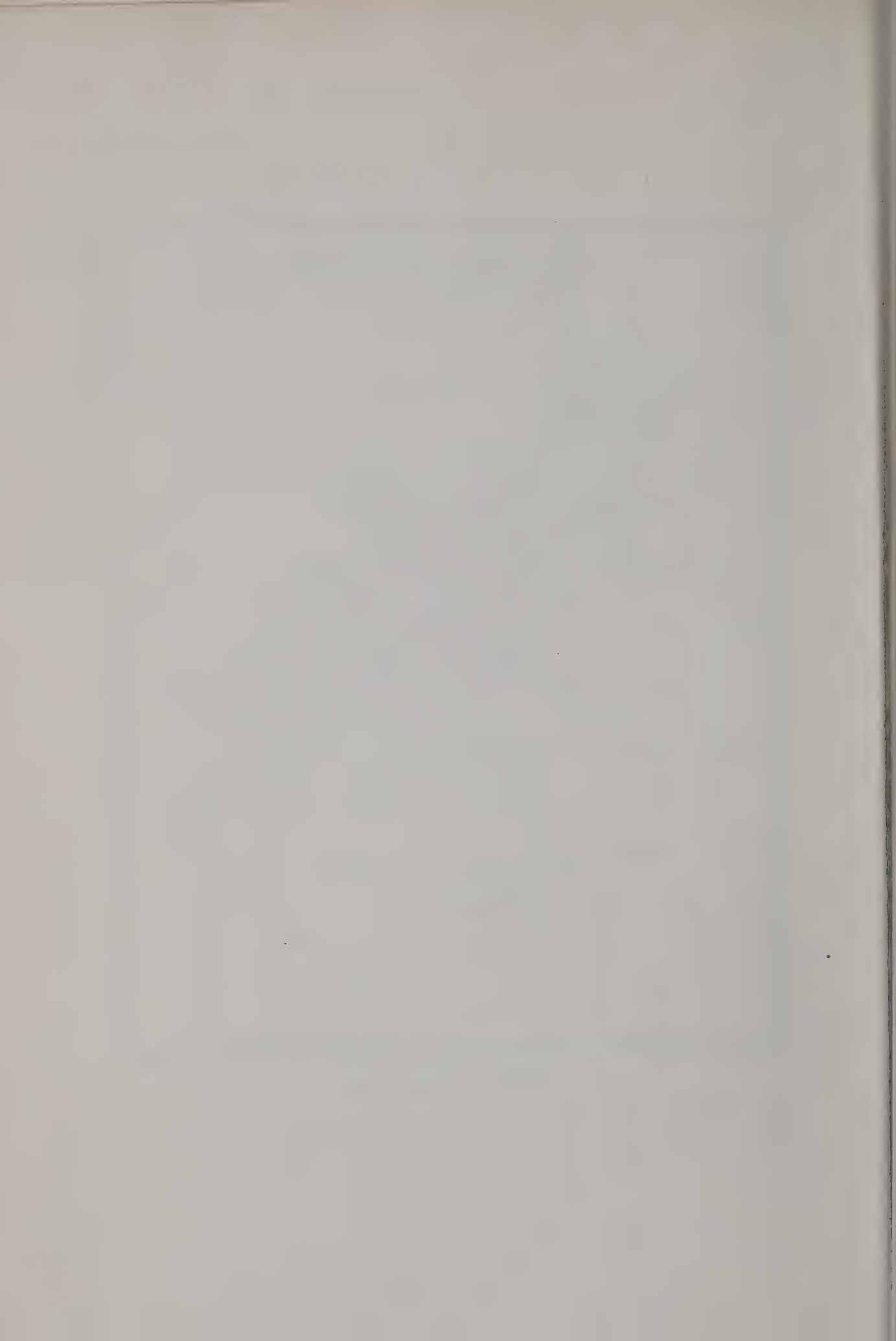


*Brooklyn Towp* Scale 450 feet to an inch

*Brooklyn Towp Scale 450 feet to an inch*



*Brighton Village, 1874*



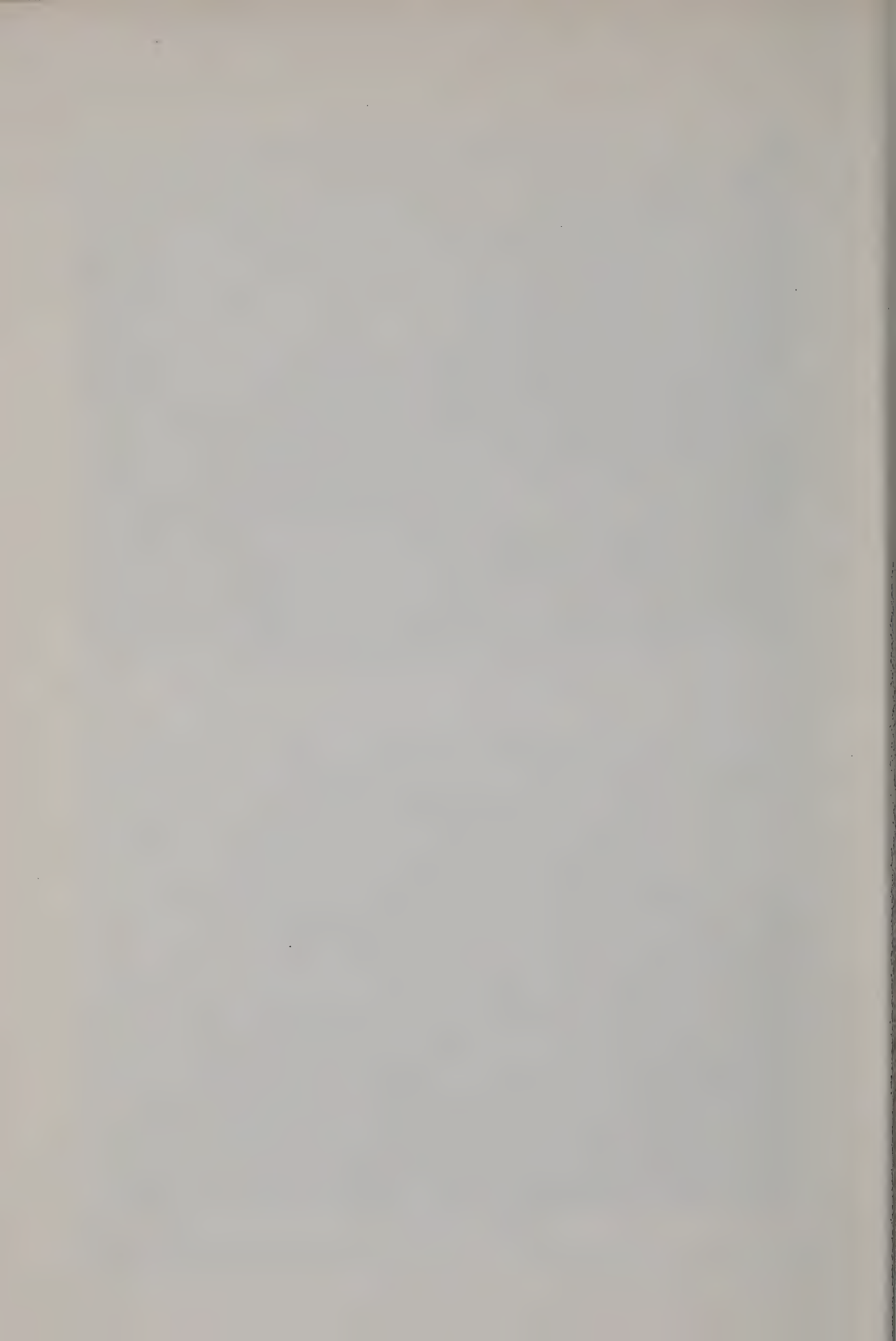


*Broadview-Pearl Corner*



*The Johnson House, 1903*





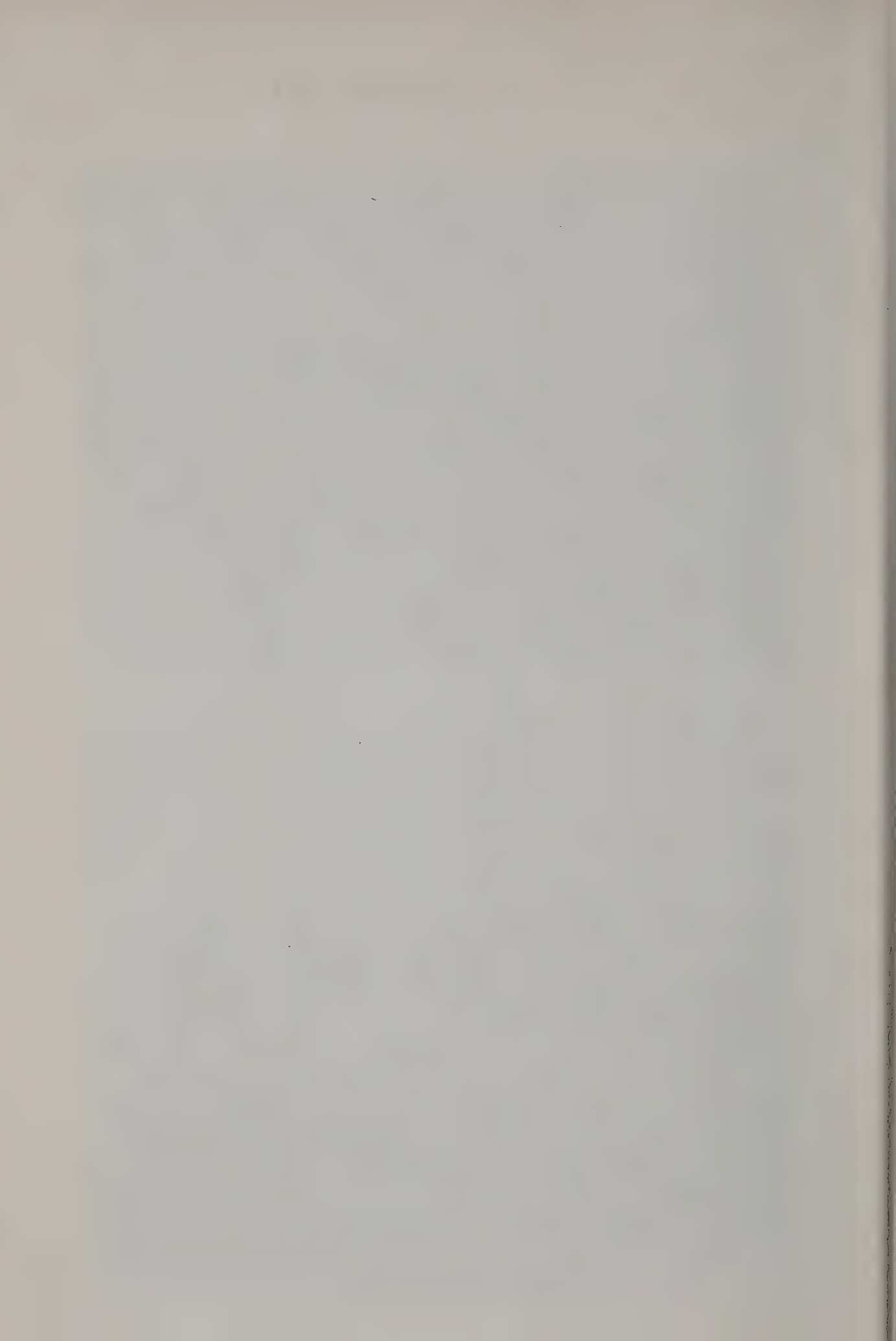
1732132



*Early Plank Road and Toll House, (Pearl Road).*



*Pearl Road Thirty Years Ago.*







*Looking West at Pearl-Broadview Corner*



*Johnson Block, 1903*



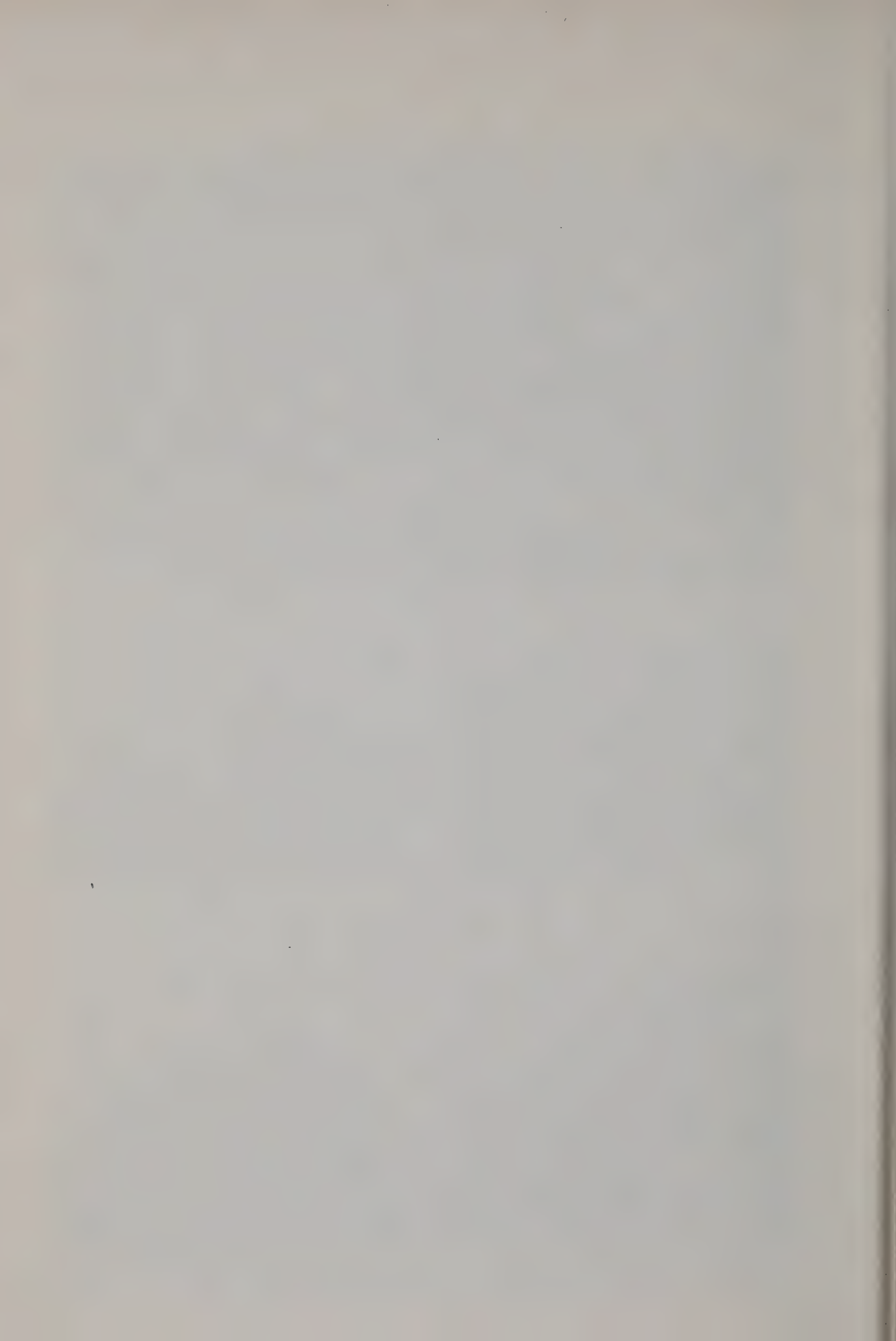
*New Johnson Block, 1903*



*Odd Fellows Hall, 1903*



*Krather Block, 1903*





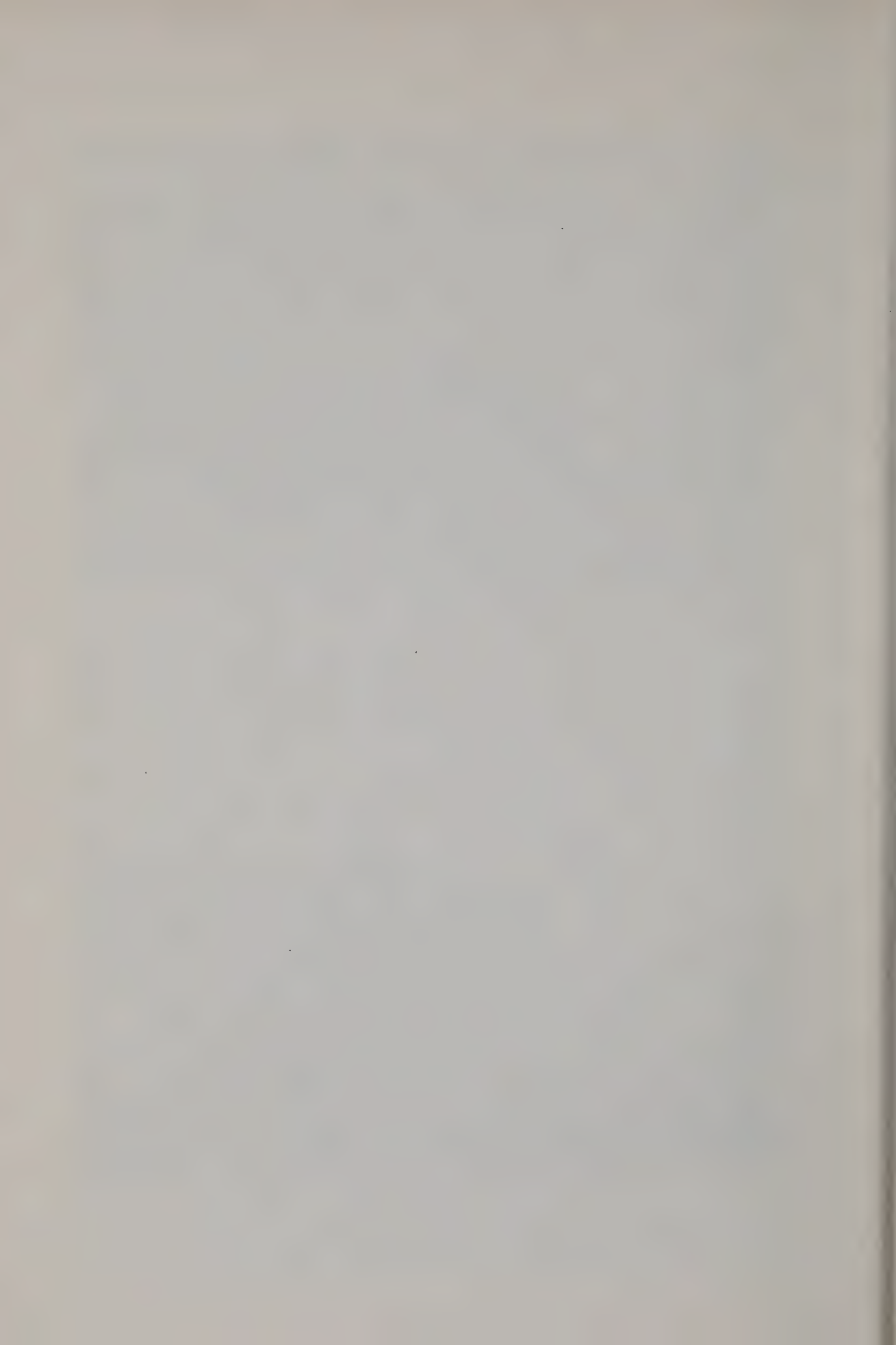


*Pearl-Broadview Business Section, 1903*



*Pearl-Broadview Business Section, 1946*







*First Brooklyn Brighton  
High Level Bridge. (wood)*



*Second Brooklyn Brighton  
High Level Bridge*



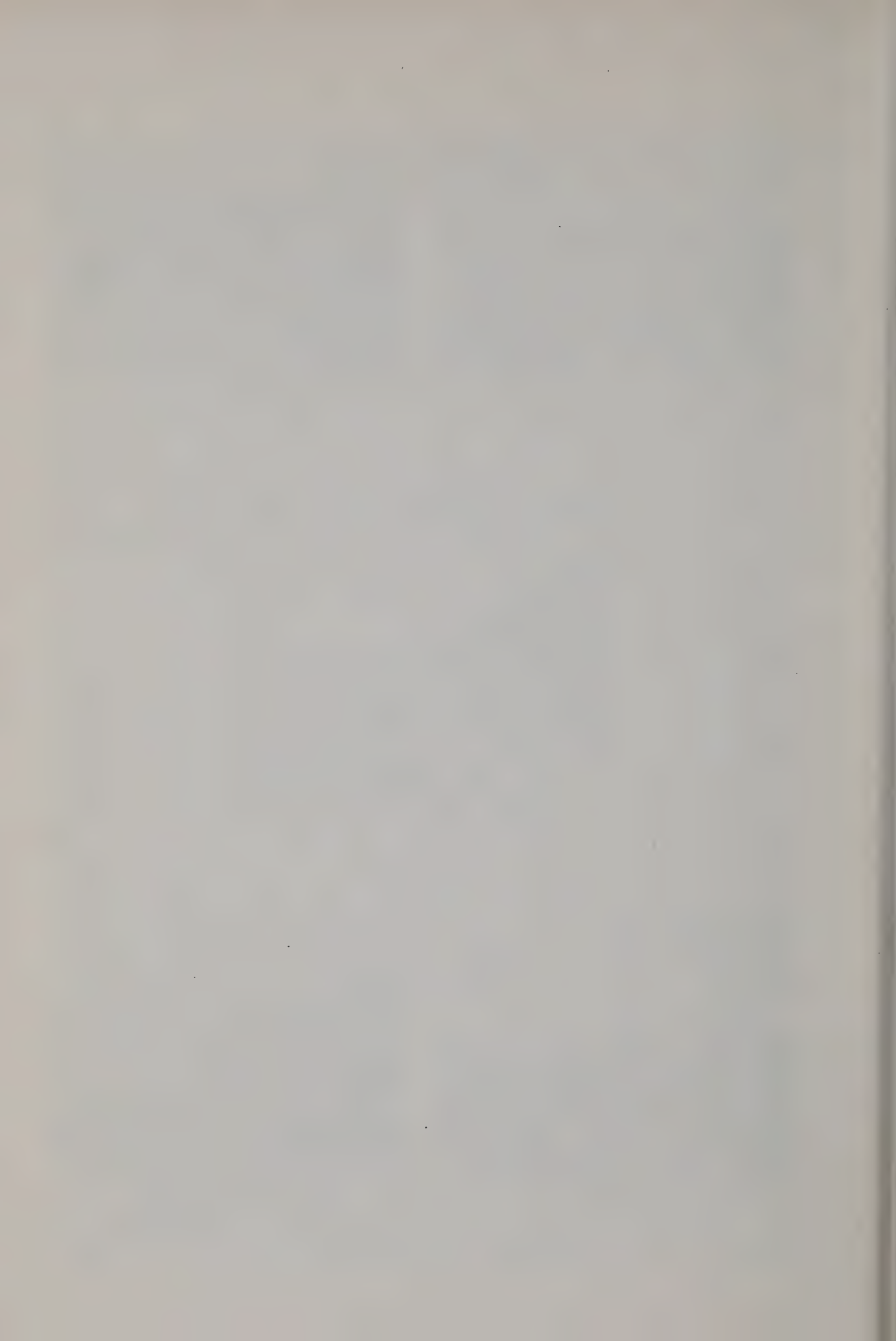
*Present Brooklyn Brighton High Level Bridge*



*Second Brooklyn Brighton  
High Level Bridge*



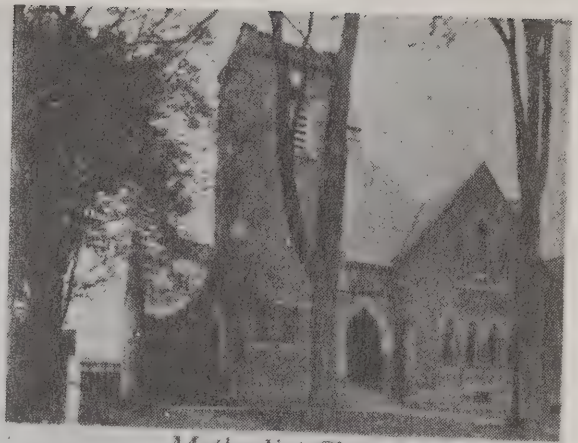
*Gates Grain Elevator,  
South End of Bridge, 1903*







*Early Methodist Church*



*Methodist Church, 1903*



*Town Hall - Engine House, 1903*



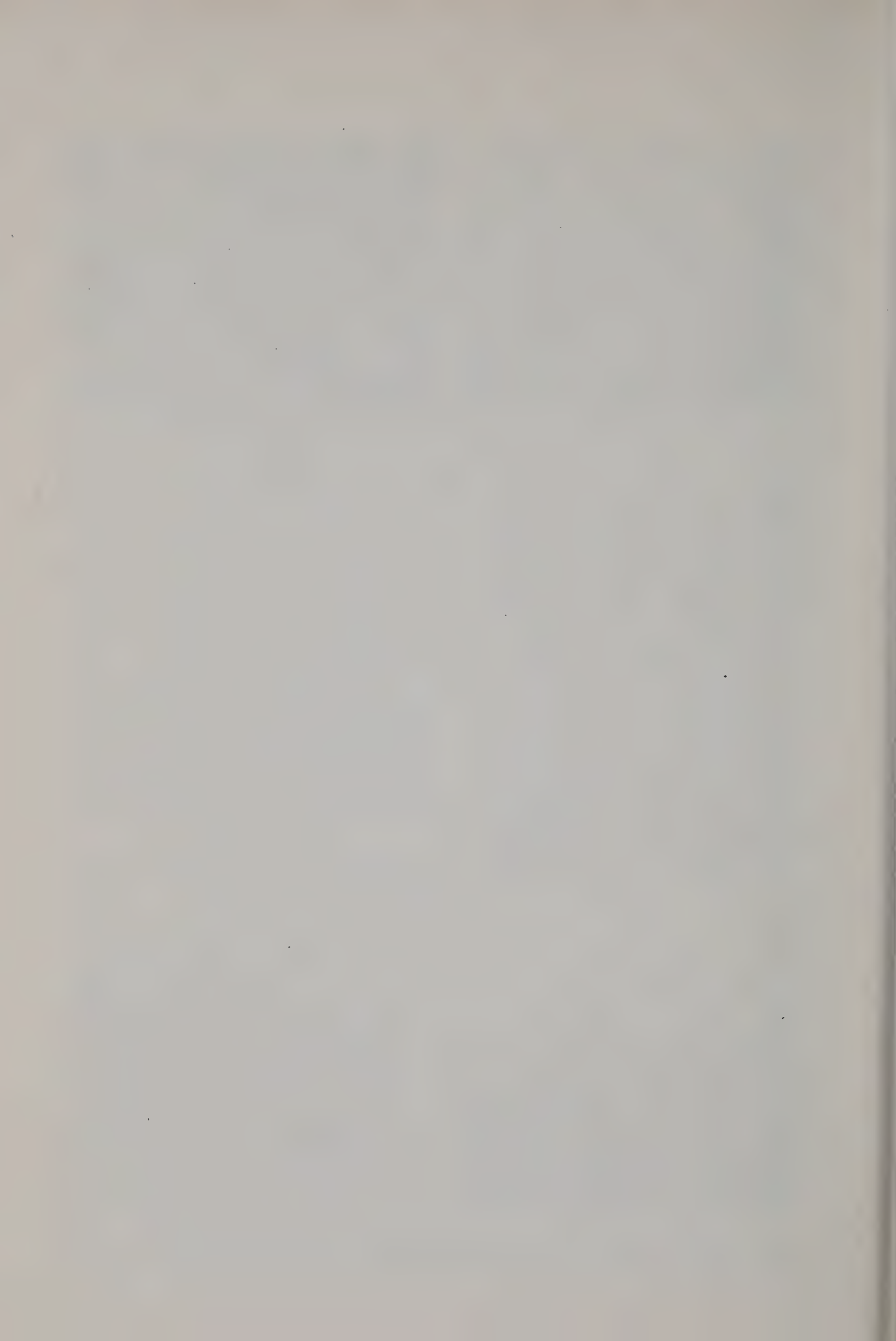
*Roman Catholic Church  
and Parish House, 1903*



*Home of John L. Johnson, 1903*



*Home of C. Gates, 1903*



street that ended at the entrance to the village cemetery. Beyond it were woods, and farther on a long hill range called the Hogsback. We children were fond of strolling through the woods to gather early spring flowers and after frosts in the fall, the chestnuts. Our next-door neighbors were Mr. and Mrs. Fuller. Mrs. Fuller was a kind, motherly woman fond of children. (The Fullers had none of their own, I believe.) She was very generous to us youngsters, giving us cookies or doughnuts on the baking days, which we much appreciated. Uncle Job Brainard, renowned as a fisherman, lived next to the schoolhouse and was annoyed by broken window lights. When we moved to Burlington, Wisconsin, we found him living there. He fished and fished with great success in nearby lakes until his death. The great strings of fish he would bring into town would make the envious boys try to spy out his lucky fishing holes. A family by the name of Barstow went from here to Wisconsin, and Mr. Barstow was at one time governor of the state. I have a hazy memory of some pretty girls in a family by the name of Tuttle—queer that my memory should be dull on this point.

“I used to like to go into a wagon maker’s shop and watch him at his work. He was not conscientious in the materials he used, and would fill up worm-eaten holes and other defects with putty, covering well with paint, but use would reveal the defects. As he may have descendants living near here, whom I would not like to offend, I will call him by the common name of Smith. He went by the name of Putty Smith.

“I had two teachers in the public school, the first a female who did not spare the rod. I was called up for some offense one day, and a boy was sent out to cut a stick for my punishment. He was a chum of mine and girdled it, so my flogging was not very efficacious. The next teacher was a Mr. Babcock—a fine man, whose memory I revere, and whom his pupils liked. I have



here a little book he gave me. On the fly-leaf is written: 'Fourth prize for spelling, presented to Mr. Chas. Foltz by Chas. H. Babcock, Instructor, Brighton, March 14, 1849.' The *Mr.* must have made me feel about a foot taller, and had it been first prize instead of fourth it would have exalted me beyond measure.

"My father would occasionally give me a treat by taking me to Cleveland, once to a concert given by the Hutchison family, at another time to a great political meeting where I heard Tom Corwin speak.

"I remember there was quite an epidemic of cholera while we lived in Brighton that caused considerable alarm through that region, also that the war with Mexico was being fought, and General Santa Anna lost his cork leg in some battle.

"Enough of these simple—and probably to you uninteresting—memories. They remind me of the words of the poet who wrote of his lost youth:

" 'A verse of a Lapland song  
Is haunting my memory still:  
A boy's will is the wind's will,  
And the thoughts of youth  
Are long, long thoughts.' "

In his book "Reminiscences" (1910) O. J. Hodge tells the following story about a gang of counterfeiters who operated in Brooklyn in the early days.

"In 1907, an old house in Brooklyn township, being repaired, brought to light quite a quantity of spurious silver coin. This house, in 1838, belonged to Col. Lawton Ross, who built it on land bought from a man named Barton, original purchaser from the Connecticut Land Company.

"Its first occupant was Barlow Parsons, who, in 1838, suddenly left for parts unknown. He died many years ago in Brooklyn, N. Y. Just before Parsons left,

it had been discovered in Brooklyn, Parma, and other townships adjoining, there was a well-organized gang of counterfeiters. Nine men in these townships were indicted by the grand jury, some for making counterfeit money, others for circulating it or having it in their possession. Several, upon whom suspicion rested, ran away, and if they ever came back it was many years after. William Countryman, who was taken 'flagrante delicto,' the moulds and paraphernalia and a quantity of counterfeit money being found in his house, pled guilty and was sent to the penitentiary for three years. The other eight indicted all put up a defense. Three were tried and acquitted. The other cases, after many postponements, were finally dropped. It was the general belief, however, that all were guilty. This man, Wm. Countryman, alone of all the 'gang,' as called, served his full term in prison. He came from Black River. At the time of his arrest he lived in Parma, near the boundary line with Brooklyn. He was a wagon maker by trade, and had his shop near his house. His wife, on his coming out of prison, refused to live with him longer, and obtained a divorce. In 1867, she was employed by my wife, as housekeeper, and remained with us two years . . . a most estimable woman.

"While living at my home I had many talks with her about her husband and others engaged with him in making and circulating spurious money. She said, 'I often told my husband some day he would get caught. When he was engaged in the work, the windows were darkened with blankets. Often in the middle of the night I was called upon to prepare meals. The coins were taken in a wagon, in the night-time, to merchants and others.

"The man who went out with the wagon was a circuit-riding minister, and he made a regular circuit in delivering the bogus money. All the men with my

husband were indicted, and those who ran away were guilty, but by helping each other got clear.' In view of these facts it will not be hard to guess how these spurious coins came to be found in that old Brooklyn house."

In 1880 John S. Reese in his Valley Railway Guide Book wrote: "It (Brighton) has a population of about 800 and is abundantly supplied with stores and hotels, has three churches and does a small business in the manufacture of wagons. The villagers are mostly Germans."

In 1889 this community again was incorporated as a village although this time under the name South Brooklyn.

The entry listed below occurs in a volume entitled, "Record of the Establishment of Villages and Townships," Office of the County Commissioners, Cuyahoga County.

*South Brooklyn Village  
Establishment of*

On March 4, 1889, a petition was presented praying for the establishment of South Brooklyn Village out of territory in Brooklyn Tp. Action was postponed and later on June 10, 1889, the prayer of the petition was granted. (Journal 7, p. 540, 574, 582 and Journal 8, p. 3.)

The following boundaries, established at the time of the incorporation of the village, are set forth in Volume I Page 36 of the County Recorder's Record of *Maps of Villages and Hamlets*.

"To the Honorable Commissioners of Cuyahoga County, Ohio: We the undersigned duly qualified electors of Brooklyn Township, Cuyahoga County, Ohio, residing upon the territory herein described as follows, to wit: Beginning at the Northwest corner of original Brooklyn Township lot No. 57, thence southerly along the westerly line of original lots 57 and 58 to the line between Charles Henritze and John Busch, Jr. Thence easterly along the said line separating the lands of John Busch and Charles



Henritze from the lands of John Busch, Jr. to the east line of the State road; thence southerly along the east line of the State road to the line between the lands of John Busch, Jr. and Edward Aiken. Then easterly along the line separating the lands of John Busch, Jr., Harriet Stickney and Horace Brainard from the lands of Edwin Aiken and Manoris Aiken to the east line of the Independence and Parma Road; thence southerly along the easterly line of said Independence and Parma road to its second intersection with the east line of original lot No. 63; thence southerly along said lot line to the south east corner of said original lot No. 63; thence easterly along the south line of original lots 76, 81 and 88 to the Center line of Cuyahoga River; thence down the center of Cuyahoga River to its intersection with the south line of Brooklyn Village; thence westerly and southerly along the south and east lines of Brooklyn Village to the south line of original lot number 74; thence westerly along the line of Brooklyn Village being also the north line of Original Lots 75, 64, and 57 to the place of beginning and embracing all of original lots 57, 64, 75, 76, 81, 82 and 88 and parts of lots 58, 63, 74, and 83. An accurate map is herewith presented representing the above described territory to be included in the proposed corporate limits. Your petitioners further represent that there are about 1,000 inhabitants residing on the above described territory proposed to be incorporated. That the name of said incorporated village shall be South Brooklyn and that your petitioners hereby designate and appoint Charles Selzer to act for us in the premises."

Those persons who favored the incorporation of the village had to overcome the strenuous opposition of the executives of certain manufacturing plants who it was said were fearful that the village officers would place too many restrictions on their business. One company brought injunction proceedings but the village won the suit. This was carried to the Court of Appeals and to the Supreme Court with the same result. In 1900 original lots 58, 59, 62, and 63 along Pearl Street and State Road and in 1902, ninety acres west of Independence Road were added to the village. The first Mayor of South Brooklyn was George Guscott followed in order by H. H. Bratton, Lyon Phelps, James Rodgers, and Fred Mathews.

In 1903 Thomas A. Knight wrote in the booklet "Picturesque South Brooklyn Village" as follows: "In addition to having a pleasant social life, the village is the home of a number of lodges and chapters of fraternal organizations. The Odd Fellows and Knights of Pythias are the most flourishing of these, the former having a hall of its own. The Maccabees, Foresters, Bankers' Fraternal Union, Mystic Tie, Lady Maccabees and Rebeccas, all having thriving societies in South Brooklyn.

"The chief charm of South Brooklyn lies in its pure, clean atmosphere, untainted by the smoke and disease-breeding corruptions of the air of the city. The village is several hundred feet above the city and is far separated from the sooty manufacturing districts. The prevailing winds of this vicinity are from the west and southwest and these come to South Brooklyn from over the pleasant country regions lying in those directions.

"City people are finding it a source of great pleasure to ride to South Brooklyn on the streetcar, and there hire a rig in which to go driving out the State or Columbus roads. . . ."

In 1905 agitation for annexation of the village by Cleveland reached the point where it was submitted to a popular vote at the regular election with the result that 411 "Yea" votes were cast as against 198 "No" votes, while in Cleveland the same issue received 42,000 "Yea" votes and 198 "No" votes. Despite this favorable majority vote there was violent opposition in South Brooklyn to annexation. Mayor Mathews and part of the council favored annexation, and were for carrying out the will of the voters as expressed at the polls. The other councilmen were opposed to annexation.

W. R. Coates in his "Cleveland and Cuyahoga County" (1924) tells the story of this opposition to



annexation as follows: "The excitement was caused by those councilmen who tried to block the proceedings, and their efforts were cleverly defeated. The council was composed of six members requiring four for a quorum. Leonard Fish and Chauncey Brainard, councilmen, stood by the mayor, while J. A. Nusser, C. J. Collister, George Miller and a Mr. Williams, while not wishing to enter the Council Chamber and vote against the wish of the people, hit upon the plan of breaking a quorum. Meetings were held for some time but no quorum was in attendance. Finally Mr. Nusser moved out of the village and his seat in the body became vacant by reason of that fact. Now a council of five members remained and only three were required to transact business. Mass meetings were held in the village and excitement ran high but no quorum of the council obtained. Finally Chas. L. Selzer acting as special solicitor of the village brought 'quo warranto' proceedings to oust Mr. Collister from office on the ground that he was not a citizen of the United States. The court granted the petition and Mr. Collister was ousted. He had been acting under the belief that his father was a naturalized citizen, which the court found to be otherwise. In the meantime the council had been holding frequent meetings, adjourning from time to time only to add to its minutes 'no quorum.' Following the ousting of Mr. Collister, Mr. Williams, one of the conspiring councilmen, slipped into the council meeting to ascertain what the next move on the municipal chess board would be. When his name was called he refused to answer, but the mayor said: 'Mr. Williams, I see you are present, you are a councilman of the village, the clerk will record you as present. I stand upon the Tom Reed rules of Congress and I now declare a quorum present for the transaction of business.' Mr. Williams, greatly incensed, rose and said: 'Mr. Mayor I resign



as councilman of this village.' His resignation was immediately accepted. Dr. Linden was elected to fill the vacancy thus created, Chas. Miller was named to succeed Mr. Collister and the necessary annexation legislation was passed. There was a great demonstration by the citizens on the finale of this drama of a Brooklyn municipality, almost equal to that when it was born and when, over the heights above Brookside Park, a cannon roared its approval." Dr. Linden and Mr. Miller each served as councilmen for one hour in the final session of the village council, after which the village of South Brooklyn became part of the great city of Cleveland.

## INSTITUTIONS CONTRIBUTING TO MODERN COMMUNITY LIFE IN THE SOUTH BROOKLYN AREA

Modern South Brooklyn, with its teeming business and industry in its northeast section, its spacious farms and fine private residences in its southeast section, and its rapidly-growing modest residence districts in its central and western sections, is indeed far different from the dense Indian-trailed forests in which the earliest settlers first swung their gleaming axes for the first clearings for the first homes. So different it is, that it is difficult to trace or to picture the various steps through which the cumulative changes have taken place.

Certain institutions, however, are recognizable as having contributed directly and immeasurably to the development of modern community life in this area. Briefly described in the following pages are some of these various institutions as they have grown from humble beginnings through the years.

### *SCHOOLS*

The first school in Cleveland was said to have been set up by three families of early settlers for their five children. However, the earliest school of which there is any official record was founded in 1814; it had approximately fifty pupils. But it was not until 1836, the year of organization under the city charter, that a definite system of public education was adopted. Previous to that year the schools, of whatever grade or character, were supported mainly by private enterprise.

Until 1858 the members of the Board of Education received their appointment from the City Council and managed the schools under certain limitations named in ordinances prescribing their duties. The Secretary of the Board, after 1841, was paid a small salary; he







*Original Public Library*



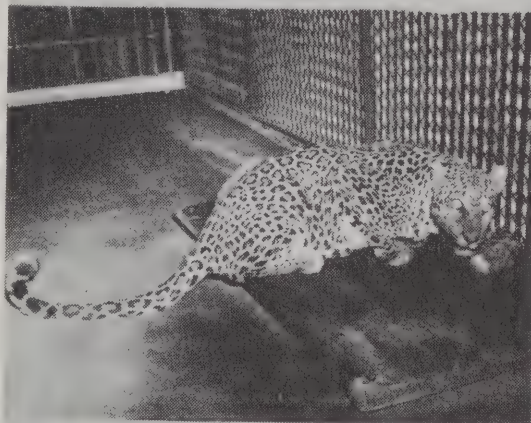
*Public Library*



*Post Office*



*Deaconess Hospital*



*Meal Time at the  
Cleveland Zoological Garden*



*Pearl Car Barns*







*James Ford Rhodes High School*



*Pearl Street High School, 1903*



*Pearl Street School, 1889*



*Original Dawning School, 1903*







*Benjamin Franklin School*



*William Rainey Harper School*



*William Cullen Bryant School*



*Dawning School*



*Memphis School*



*New Memphis School*





was called the acting manager and personally attended to all ordinary affairs. Besides the board of managers, the Council appointed visiting committees for two years, one for the primary and one for the senior grade of schools; later, a committee for each ward. Every man at that time was selected by the Council, "with strict reference to his fitness; the Board was made up of excellent men." After 1858 the selection of the Board was accomplished by the voters independently of Council.

The first "salary schedule" called for \$10 a week for male teachers, \$5 for female teachers. There were forty-four weeks to the year and five and one-half days to the week, with each day exactly six hours long, in all the grades. All losses of time, regardless of cause, were deducted from salaries. Teachers throughout the city were expected to keep their schoolrooms in order—to sweep and dust them, and to make their fires in the winter season. Most teachers managed the sweeping without hiring it done, the scholars volunteering to do it and serving by terms. The rooms were heated by stoves, and, with the exception of a single building, wood was used for fuel until 1851. In some cases boys and girls did all the sweeping and dusting with great diligence, and protested vigorously when the principal of the school insisted on making the fire himself. Coal was used by all the schools after 1854, by order of the Board of Education.

The furniture used in schools in the early days was extremely primitive in style and of the cheapest construction. For seating the pupils, long pine benches were used, often backless unless it happened to be convenient to place the benches against a wall. For the use of the senior classes in writing, etc., higher benches or boards were arranged before the lower forms, corresponding in length with them. The seating expense per scholar at that time was estimated at fifty cents. In 1845

the first two-seated desks began to be used. They were cheaply made out of pine, costing between \$1.50 and \$1.75 per desk. Gradually, as the years went by, desks were improved by adding back-rests and by using as material good-grade finished wood with steel supports.

The early teachers of Cleveland labored with great earnestness and zeal. Soon after the schools were organized, they held meetings and discussed matters of general interest to the schools. The first regularly organized teacher associations held their meetings beginning in 1842. No records remain of these meetings, but the teachers discussed mainly how classes should be run to the greatest advantage of the pupil. From these early efforts emerged such modern organizations as The Cleveland Teachers' Association, The Cleveland Teachers' Union, and The Northeastern Ohio Teachers' Association.

Practically all of the schools, even at an early date, had some sort of small library for reference work. The books mainly came from the private enterprise of teachers and pupils, and through philanthropic gifts. The Board of Education at times appropriated money for the expansion of these school libraries.

South Brooklyn's first schools were small in size, with rough-hewn furniture, and pupils traveled great distances to attend them. Though their official registration at times may have been relatively high, their actual attendance usually was low.

### *The Beehive*

One early school was located at 2309 Broadview Road, which is opposite the old South Brooklyn Town Hall. It received its striking name in an equally striking way. After being abandoned as a school, it was used as a home for several foreign families. When all of the foreigners congregated, they spoke different lan-



guages, presenting a buzzing, bee-like sound, and when the other people of the community heard this, they nicknamed it the Beehive.

### *The Brighton Academy*

The Brighton Academy was founded by Samuel H. Barstow in 1840, when Brighton was regarded as "a place with a brilliant future" before it. The brilliant future failed, however, to reveal itself insofar as the Academy was concerned, and it folded up within a brief season.

### *The Pearl Street Schools*

In all, there were three Pearl Street Schools within the boundaries of South Brooklyn. The first, a small one-room brick structure, was a typical little red school-house. This building eventually was torn down because of the need of more room for the increasing number of pupils. In 1886 a new building was erected on a lot ninety-three feet by one-hundred and forty feet, on Pearl Street opposite Mill Street.

The building cost \$7,000 and was made of brick, "offering nothing in the way of style, save the surrounding fence." The stone basement contained a central heating furnace, which replaced the stove type of heating used in the first school. It had five rooms, two on each of the lower stories, and a double room on the third floor. It seated 333 pupils. Pearl School, at its height in 1856, had 237 pupils and five teachers. That year the grammar department held the attendance record, having an eighty-nine percentage. The attendance for the entire school averaged eighty per cent. Sickness caused three-fourths of the absence as there was little truancy.

The school that was known as the third Pearl Street School, was really the second school torn down and re-



built. The eight-room structure was built on an irregular tract of land larger in measurement than the site of the preceding school. This building was abandoned in 1932, and torn down in 1936.

After the building had been razed, the property supposedly was sold, but it was stated in the will of the man who gave the property to the Board of Education originally that it could be used for educational purposes only and this sale was invalidated. Eventually the will was cleared, and the property was auctioned off in December, 1945. The Broadview Savings and Loan Bank outbid other prospective buyers with a bid of \$65,500. Acceptance of the bid was delayed because the City contemplated purchasing the lot for the extension of Memphis Avenue. Many local business men protested that use of the site, which for some time had served as a parking lot, for purposes of extending Memphis Avenue east of Pearl as had been proposed in the City Council, would jeopardize business because of a lack of parking space. Finally, early in January of 1946, the bid of the Broadview Savings and Loan Bank was accepted by the Board of Education and the school site became the property of the bank.

### *Dawning School*

Dawning School was built in 1902 on Dawning Avenue to contain the elementary grades of one through six. The ten-room edifice of composite construction was at that time the pride of South Brooklyn. The school staff included twelve teachers and one principal, Lottie Hitch, who served until 1913, when the school was abandoned.

An entirely new building, the present Dawning School, was erected nearby at 4430 West 35th Street in 1913. The new building contains the same grades as the first and has a staff of eight teachers.

### *Memphis School*

Memphis School was built in 1919 at 4103 Memphis Avenue to contain the elementary grades of one through six. The building consists of three stories, and is of fireproof brick construction. At present it has a staff of twenty teachers.

### *New Memphis School (Under Construction)*

A new Memphis School is now under construction at Memphis Avenue and West 59th Street. It will be a four-room building and contain grades one through six.

### *Benjamin Franklin School*

Benjamin Franklin School was built in 1923 at 1905 Spring Road to accommodate grades one through eight. The building and grounds cover a land area greater than any other school in South Brooklyn. Almost half of the grounds are devoted to school gardens. No other school in the entire community has such a fine horticultural department and garden center as does Benjamin Franklin. The school has a teaching staff of twenty-eight.

### *William Rainey Harper School*

William Rainey Harper School was erected in 1927 at 5515 Ira Avenue to contain the grades from one through eight. This newest combination elementary and junior high school of the community has twenty-nine rooms and a teaching staff of twenty-three, plus a principal and an assistant principal.

### *William Cullen Bryant School*

William Cullen Bryant School was built in 1930 at 3121 Oak Park Avenue to contain the grades one

through six. The three-story brick structure consists of twenty-one rooms. It is staffed with eight teachers.

### *James Ford Rhodes High School*

James Ford Rhodes High School, named in honor of the Cleveland industrialist and historian of that name, was opened on February 1, 1932. For one year Rhodes was a combination junior and senior high school, but on February 1, 1933, was changed to a four-year senior high school. Grass and trees were planted, and the outside flanks of the school were leveled, graded, graveled, and turned into a playground by 1933. The modern football and athletic field, with a cinder running track surrounding it, was dedicated in 1933. The cement bleachers were finished in the spring of 1937. The auditorium was started in the spring of 1936 by the Federal Works Progress Administration and was finished by January, 1937. At that time three new rooms were added to the original building giving it a total of forty-three rooms. No new additions have been made since that time, although plans have been approved by the Board of Education for building a girls' gymnasium at the west end of the school.

In 1936 construction of the running track under the building began. Progress was first made on this project by the track team boys under faculty supervision. In the following year help was given by the National Youth Administration, and later the Works Progress Administration completed the work. The track was ready for interscholastic competition in 1938.

The Rhodes building is an excellent example of a modern adaptation of Italian architecture. From an airplane it resembles a huge E, the long vertical line being the main hall along the front, the west corridor leading to the gymnasium and cafeteria, the center to the shops, and the east corridor to the auditorium.



James Ford Rhodes is a general or cosmopolitan high school which offers college preparatory training to approximately forty per cent of its students and vocational or pre-vocational training to the remainder.

The school library is a branch of the Cleveland Public Library, serving the teachers and students of the school. Almost 9,000 volumes plus numerous periodicals are available, and the circulation exceeds three thousand volumes per month. The seating capacity of the library is eighty, plus four conference rooms which will accommodate about eight each. It is staffed by one head librarian and two paid assistants, plus paid pupil pages and volunteer pupil helpers.

The dramatic and social room contains a small stage, illuminated by two shaded lights. The room is separated from the clothing laboratory by a soundproof partition. When the partition is closed, the room will seat about eighty persons; when it is opened, one hundred seventy persons may be seated in the combined rooms. This room has been attractively decorated and it is admirably suited for club meetings, one-act plays, and other group work.

James Ford Rhodes has two cafeterias, one for students and one for teachers, both of which are self-supporting. The students' cafeteria occupies two rooms with a total seating capacity of four hundred, and the teachers' cafeteria seats seventy-five. On the average, fourteen hundred students pass through the lunch lines daily during the three periods at which lunches are served. The cafeteria, with a staff of twelve employees, is supervised by a professional dietitian employed by the Board of Education.

The school dispensary, in charge of a registered nurse, is the headquarters for all student health records, physical examinations, and emergency treatment of sick and injured students and school employees. Physicians

and dentists employed by the Board of Education use the dispensary for periodic examinations of students.

At present James Ford Rhodes has an enrollment of 1,439, with an educational staff of fifty-three teachers, a principal, two assistant principals, and two full-time clerks.

The percentage of daily attendance of pupils averages between ninety-six and ninety-seven.

## CHURCHES

### *Pearl Road Methodist Episcopal*

About the year 1832, some of the original founders of the Brooklyn Memorial Church decided to establish a society of their own. The men who were chiefly responsible for the new arrangement were Samuel and William Barstow, Captain Warren Young, and Abial Cushman. The building purchased for the meeting place was one that had been used as follows: the upper floor housed an academy for one term, the lower floor had a wagon and paint shop at one end, and at the other a space used for the meetings of the village council. This was the beginning of Brighton Methodist Episcopal Church, later the Pearl Road Methodist Episcopal Church. Connections with the mother church were, however, maintained until 1875. Until that time the same pastors served both charges; in that year Brighton was made a separate charge, with Rev. O. Card as local pastor.

During these years people attended church very regularly and conscientiously. Children of all ages went with their parents. Attendance was expected despite the distances which had to be walked, or traversed in hard, jolting, and slow-moving wagons. The people were plainly clothed. Sermons were long, and—we would think—tiresome. Then, they were effective, al-

though they would not move a present day audience very much. The hymns were lustily sung albeit taught by the minister because there were not enough copies to go around.

At one time it was customary for the men and boys to sit on one side of the church and the girls and women on the other side. Samuel Mower, the first regular pastor appointed to Brighton Church in 1884, was the first minister to announce the end of that arrangement. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Gates were the first to sit together.

During the pastorate of F. W. Z. Barrett, 1895 to 1898, the new building was erected at 4200 Pearl Road. This was the Brighton Methodist Episcopal Church. Some years later, sometime between 1905 and 1909, when Rev. Mr. Badgley was pastor, the Brighton Church was renamed. In common with many other buildings which were named for the streets on which they happened to be located, Brighton M. E. Church became Pearl Road M. E. Church, inasmuch as West 25th Street beyond the Brooklyn-Brighton Bridge had remained Pearl Road upon the annexation of South Brooklyn to the city of Cleveland.

In January of 1923, during the pastorate of the Rev. Dr. John H. Blackburn, the board of trustees was authorized to erect at the rear of the church a building to house the department of religious education. This was opened April 27, 1924, soon after the older building was remodeled to present a beautiful and worshipful appearance. The combined buildings were dedicated from November 2-9, 1924. In February of the following year (1925) the older part of the remodeled structure was destroyed by fire.

### *St. Luke's Evangelical and Reformed*

St. Luke's Church at Pearl Road and Memphis Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio, was founded by the late Rev.



C. Allard, who came to the Brighton Community in the spring of 1843 to organize the German Protestant families of the community into a Christian fellowship. A small frame schoolhouse, which Rev. Allard purchased from the Board of Education at a cost of \$80.00 and moved to the corner of Broadview and Schaaf Roads, served the newly-organized congregation as its first church building.

After ten years about one-half of the original membership of the church decided to move to Brighton Village to build a larger building on the present site of St. Luke's Church. This building, too, was a frame structure, and served the congregation well until 1903, when it was replaced by the present brick structure.

St. Luke's Church as a member of the Evangelical and Reformed denomination has served in the South Brooklyn area for 103 years. The present membership numbers 675 adults and 325 children in the school of religion.

#### *Our Lady of Good Counsel (Lady of the Sacred Heart)*

On July 11, 1873, the Reverend Patrick Francis Quigly came to South Brooklyn to a public school building, where a congregation of about twenty people anxiously awaited the first mass to be said in their village. For several months after that, the little congregation gathered to hear mass in the home of Albert Van der Weyst. They were then given permission to use as a church a cooper shop that stood on the Van der Weyst grounds. Each Saturday night the barrels and cooperage equipment were pushed aside, and a sheet was hung across the back of the room in front of the stove. In front of the sheet a large box was placed to serve as an altar. A few chairs were available, but most of the pews consisted of planks placed across nail kegs. Bits

of hay sifted through the cracks in the floor above and fell on the heads of the little congregation.

On July 4, 1875, their church, named in honor of the Blessed Virgin under the title of Sacred Heart of Mary, was dedicated. The church, costing about \$11,000, was 70 feet by 35 feet, with walls 28 feet above water table, and featured a steeple.

On Sunday, May 12, 1907, one of the servers hung his cassock on the same hook on which hung a censer containing burning charcoal. At about three o'clock flames burst from the church, climbed into the tower, and sent skyward a column of smoke that called the congregation to witness the destruction of their treasure. The fire department battled the fire, but not until the cross on the steeple had fallen, blazing, into the front yard of the church was the fire brought under control. The church was a ruin. The sorrowing crowd dispersed, but still the flames were not content. Early on Monday morning the blaze started again and completed the destruction of the building. This time the bell, with a clang that seemed a sob, crashed from its place in the tower.

With their church gone, the parishioners immediately started plans for a new church. The councilmen looked with favor to the property that was available on the corner of Spokane Avenue and Pearl Street. The six lots which were available cost \$1,000 each. With a payment of \$50 the parish secured a two-month option on the property. They were not satisfied with their new location; Mr. Domaski stated that the property on the Pearl Street hill was available for \$7,000. After one week of investigation the parish had purchased the property on which it stands today. On March 11, 1908, the lots for the present Mission House, C. P. P. S., was purchased.

On the feast of St. Joseph, March 19, 1917, Father Luke turned the first ground for the new church. The name of the parish was then changed from Sacred Heart of Mary to Our Lady of Good Counsel. The basement church was opened for services in September, 1918, at a cost of about \$90,000. The new church was completely finished and was dedicated on May 30, 1930. Father S. J. Kremer, C. P. P. S., has been pastor of Our Lady of Good Counsel for almost thirty years.

### *St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran*

In the year 1893, Pastor J. J. Walker of St. Matthew's Church on Scranton Road, began with mission work in South Brooklyn, preaching in a private home every two weeks. A little frame church, with a white fence, was erected on Ruby Avenue, and the first services of this church were held on January 7, 1894. The dedication of this church took place on July 8, 1894.

In 1897, a congregation was organized for the church on Ruby Avenue and the name chosen was St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church of South Brooklyn, Ohio. It had six voting and 64 communicant members and 40 school children. Mr. August Bornitzki was the first teacher.

The congregation called the candidate for the ministry, O. Ungemach, as its first pastor in the year 1897.

In 1908, the congregation, finding the location on Ruby Avenue unfavorable for its church and school, purchased its present property at the corner of Pearl Road and Ardmore Avenue. In 1909, a cyclone nearly destroyed the buildings on Ruby Avenue, whereupon the congregation erected a brick building on the new site. This was combined into both a church auditorium and school rooms under one roof, and was used for fourteen years.



Pastor W. H. F. Brandes of Huntington, Indiana, was installed in July, 1910. The congregation grew to about 1,100—800 communicants and 220 pupils in the school, with four teachers. A. Brisky was principal of the school.

At a business meeting held January, 1923, the congregation decided to attempt to build a new building. A committee was elected to propose plans at the next meeting and contributing members were called upon for pledges for the new church. As a result of their response the present church was dedicated March 29, 1925.

### *United Presbyterian*

This parish, started by people coming from the United Presbyterian Church at Carnegie Avenue and East 79th Street, was started in 1908. The location selected for worship was in the Southwestern Hall, next to the old Brooklyn post office. They soon outgrew this hall and moved to the present property in 1909. The first pastor in this growing congregation was Rev. J. A. Mahoffy, who was succeeded by the Rev. A. B. Reid, and then by the Rev. Mr. Bamfford. In May, 1925, some members disagreed with the other members and walked out. When the present pastor, the Rev. James H. Dean, came to this parish, there were only about seventy-two members because of this walkout. At the present time there are about 420 members.

### *Unity Lutheran*

In 1914, a movement set forth to establish an English Lutheran Church, named Unity. The Rev. C. C. Morhart followed his call to "Go ye, and teach all nations," and started to organize the church. He attempted to organize the new church with the help of the members of his own church, Redeemer Church, of

which he was the pastor. The members worked with Rev. Morhart, and soon the first services were held. This small band of Christians gathered in a small room over what was then known as Bader's Drug Store. A short time later, due to alterations on the building, it was necessary to move to the Southwestern Hall next to the old Brooklyn post office. They worshipped here until 1917, and again they were forced to move.

During the period when the congregation had no pastor, the Rev. C. C. Morhart, assisted by the Rev. W. A. W. Anpiry and the Rev. C. H. Kindrick, had charge of it. The Rev. R. G. Long was installed by the Rev. C. C. Morhart.

The first matter transacted after the congregation was permanently settled was the purchasing of the lots upon which Unity Lutheran Church now stands. The uncompleted church was dedicated on January 27, 1918. The complete church located at 4542 Pearl Road was dedicated on November 27, 1927.

### *St. Mary's Polish-American Catholic*

The church catering to the religious beliefs of many residents in Brooklyn of Polish descent, is the St. Mary's Polish National Catholic Church. This quaint white-painted flat-boarded church, is located on its original site at 3510 Broadview Road.

On April 23, 1915, the Rev. L. Wrzesinski, with the assistance of Messrs. Andrew Gasior, Walter Nowak, Andrew Ziemba, and John Hajec, established the church and made plans to purchase land for the construction of the religious institution. The Rev. Wrzesinski preached the first sermon to be heard within the portals of the new church on November 15, 1915. Since its founding, this church, which is one of four that belongs to the Western Diocese of the Polish Na-

tional Catholic Church, has grown and prospered steadily.

In the year 1945, St. Mary's Church celebrated its thirtieth anniversary and is now looking and planning for the future, when, under the guidance of the Rev. Bernard S. Golawski, a new house of worship will be constructed on the lot adjacent to the present building.

### *Church of God*

The South Brooklyn Church of God had a very humble beginning, as did many other churches in Cleveland. A few God-fearing people with purpose and conviction began to worship together in private homes, later moving from hall to hall.

It was not until 1926 that the church was really established in Brooklyn. In that year lots were purchased on the corner of Stickney Avenue and West 41st Street. This was then a sparsely settled community but many signs of growth were evident.

On November 21, 1926, the present building was dedicated. During the years that followed the community developed rapidly and the church grew beyond the anticipation of the people. In order to make room for the increased attendance and the expanded program of the church, a balcony has been constructed, the basement has been remodeled, and a small addition has been built.

The membership has grown beyond the capacity of the present building making it necessary to purchase lots in a new location. Plans for a new and entirely adequate building now are being prepared so that the church can better help to serve the religious needs of the residents of South Brooklyn.

### *The Brookside Baptist Temple*

On the cornerstone of the Brookside Baptist Temple, located at 3420 Henninger Road, is written, "The



Cleveland Whole Gospel Tabernacle Movement Began September 28, 1924. This edifice dedicated June 12, 1927, to the Adorable Trinity: Father, Son, and the Holy Ghost."

The movement mentioned above was called the Divine Healing Holiness and was started by Rev. F. L. Shaw. He conducted revival services, where the Bible was read. His rather large followings led to his decision to build a church. The church he built later developed into The Christian Missionary Alliance, whose first pastor was the Rev. E. B. Fitch.

The building was purchased by the Brookside Baptist Temple in 1937. The congregation started with twenty-five members then, but it has increased the membership to more than four hundred. A group of twenty people do missionary work in our jails and in the Warrensville Reformatory. In the summer months, every Monday night from 8:00 until 10:00 a sermon is preached near the Johnson monument in the Public Square. Besides owning the church, the Brookside Baptist Temple owns the two homes next to the church, which will some day be rebuilt into a parsonage. The church also owns a \$9,000 parsonage located at 2306 Montclair Avenue, which will be sold after the new parsonage is built.

The church is in what may be called a semi-basement and a first floor. On a part of the second floor there is a small vestibule where the Rev. Mr. Luttrell, the present pastor, and his family now reside. A large auditorium is being planned on the remainder of the second floor. Above the vestibule a group of offices is to be built.

### *Gloria Dei Evangelical Lutheran*

Gloria Dei Evangelical Lutheran Church started in 1933, with the Rev. Nelson A. Miller as pastor.

His pastorate ended in 1941, when a supply came in for a year. In 1942, the Rev. H. G. Blickensderfer became pastor of this organization. The chapel where the Rev. Mr. Miller and the church members worshipped was organized in June, 1935. The church, located at West 58th Street and Memphis Avenue, was erected between 1938 and 1939. It was dedicated in 1940. The church society was started by the Swedish people. At the time it started in 1935, there were 69 charter members, and at the present time there are 338 confirmed members.

### *Brooklyn Church of the Nazarene*

In 1934, when the Brooklyn Church of the Nazarene began in Glenn Hall, under the leadership of the District Superintendent, the Rev. C. Warren Jones, no one suspected the church would rate a notice in Ripley's "Believe It or Not" column. However, it did, and the reason seems obvious. The church's congregation of twenty charter members met on the second floor of the hall which was sandwiched in between a bowling alley underneath and a dance floor above.

Two years later, property was purchased and a temporary church and parsonage was built on its present site at 2005 Cypress Avenue near Broadview Road. When sufficient funds were raised, the first pastor of the church, Rev. Andrew Young, with the help of his father, planned and supervised the construction of the present building.

In the years following, the Rev. Charles Finney, the Rev. H. G. Stunech, the Rev. Anthony J. Tosti, and the present pastor, the Rev. Thomas H. Younce, preached within the gray-shingled walls, all with the common purpose of enlightening the people.

### *Corpus Christi*

Corpus Christi Church on Stickney Avenue near Pearl Road had its beginning in 1935. Its first services were held in the auditorium of Our Lady of Good Counsel Church. The formal blessing of the church took place on October 18, 1936. The Rev. Anthony B. Orlemanski was pastor at that time and is also pastor at the present time.

When it was originated, the parish consisted of about forty-five families, and since that time has grown to 450. There is a Sunday School class that meets each Sunday after the nine o'clock mass. This class is for boys and girls who attend public schools. Each year these children receive their first Holy Communion and the act of Confirmation.

On the church grounds there is a War Memorial, dedicated to the service men of the parish. If, and when, the parish school is built, this statue will be used at its entrance.

Corpus Christi was started by Polish people, although people of all nationalities attend its services. The ten o'clock, or high mass, is given in Polish.

### *Christian and Missionary Alliance*

Among the newer religious institutions of Brooklyn is the Christian and Missionary Alliance Church, now worshipping in the old Carnegie Library building on the corner of Pearl Road and Devonshire Avenue. This church was organized in August, 1938, under the leadership of the present pastor, Rev. John Nussbaum. The nucleus of the church was gathered together by the Rev. E. B. Fitch, the Rev. Nussbaum's predecessor. However, he moved on before the church was organized.



Since the attendance has outgrown the present quarters, the church has purchased the large corner lot on West 28th Street and Broadview Road, where a new structure will go up within a year or eighteen months to be the permanent home for this congregation.

### *St. Mary's Greek Catholic*

Prior to 1939, a thriving industry, The Brooklyn Monumental Works, was housed in the long building at the corner of State Road and Stickney Avenue. Since that date the building has been occupied by St. Mary's Greek Catholic Church. Within a few years after the church took over this building, a parish house costing \$15,000 was built and all debts were paid. The next project of the parish is the construction of a new \$100,000 church, more than half of the money for which, already has been raised.

The pastor of this growing parish is Father Daniel Ivancho.

### *Brooklyn Heights Congregational*

During the year 1925 the building on Dornur Drive was erected largely through the generosity of the Cleveland Union, and on January 10, 1926, the Brooklyn Heights Congregational Church was organized with forty-nine charter members, among whom were represented eight different denominations. Rev. Kirk M. Dewey was the first pastor.

During the twenty years of its existence the church membership has increased to the point where a more adequate building seems desirable. A building fund committee under the chairmanship of J. E. String has been successful in raising the funds necessary to begin the preparation of plans for such a building. A site for the new building has been secured on the corner of Schaaf Road and West 20th Street. This site has approximately 265 feet on Schaaf Road and 126 feet

on West 20th Street. The pastors following Rev. Dewey have been Rev. William Mulder, 1928 to 1930; Rev. N. E. Escott, 1930 to 1936; Rev. J. G. Appleton, 1936 to 1938, and Rev. R. B. Blyth since 1939.

### *Broadview Baptist*

This church was organized June 30, 1926, in the church building at the corner of Broadview and Natchez. About 1935, the pastor and congregation moved to a temporary building on Broadview and in October 1944, became established in the present building at 2046 Spring Road. Rev. E. R. Powell has been pastor since the organization of the church.

### *St. James Evangelical Lutheran*

In 1933, Rev. John E. Baumgaertner began work in the vicinity of Schaaf Road and Broadview Road. Due to a transfer of a number of members from St. Mark's and Unity Churches, the mission grew rapidly so that by 1936, they could erect the present building on the corner of Broadview Road and Maynard Avenue. Rev. P. G. Mroch has been pastor since 1945. At present the membership includes 375 adults and 150 children in Sunday School. About 250 families in the community are served by this church.

### *South Hills Baptist*

The South Hills Baptist Church building, located at Broadview Road and Natchez Avenue, was erected in 1929. The church was organized as South Hills Baptist Church May 5, 1936, with the Rev. Mr. Kinney as pastor. He was followed by Rev. R. J. Lloyd, and in 1943 the present pastor, Rev. A. H. Gage.

### *Brooklyn Missionary*

The Brooklyn Missionary Church building at 4004 Cypress Avenue, was built in 1909 by a German Methodist group and it was known as Salem Methodist Church. In 1929, this church closed and the building was purchased by a group who became incorporated as Bethel Gospel Tabernacle. On August 23, 1937, this group affiliated with the Missionary Church Association and has since been known as the Brooklyn Missionary Church. The building was remodeled and enlarged in 1942. The present pastor is Rev. T. Habegger.

### *The Community Church*

The Community Church at Woburn Avenue and West 63rd Street was organized in 1944, by Rev. R. H. Giffin, the present pastor.

### *Bethlehem United Brethren*

The Bethlehem United Brethren Church was organized by Rev. C. H. Laird in 1943, on Lorain Avenue. It was transferred to its present location, 1509 Spring Road, April 17, 1944. The present pastor is Rev. H. E. Snyder.

## *THE PUBLIC LIBRARY*

The first library in South Brooklyn, the Carnegie South Brooklyn Branch, was located on the corner of Pearl Road and Devonshire, just south of the present Deaconess Hospital.

It was opened in July, 1905, as an independent library, when South Brooklyn was a separate village. For it a gift of \$10,000 was received from Andrew Carnegie. The site cost \$10,000 and the building and furnishings, \$58,642. As it was known at that time



that the village soon would be part of Cleveland, and the library a part of the Cleveland Public Library system, the books were selected by the Cleveland Public Library. On January 1, 1906, the library became a sub-branch of the Cleveland Public Library, when the village became part of Cleveland. In July, 1920, it became a regular branch, the Carnegie South Brooklyn branch.

In July, 1937, the library was moved to the west side of Pearl Road, at Henritze, into a building originally occupied by a bank. This building is of yellow brick with a stone front. There is a two-story addition at the rear. The main entrance was moved from Pearl Road to Henritze Avenue and it leads into the building between the adult room and the children's room. Inside there are no partitions on the main floor. The walls and ceiling are painted a cream color, and the woodwork is of blond maple. Large plate glass windows face both Henritze Avenue and Pearl Road. These windows are used for publicity and other special displays.

As visitors enter the library from the main entrance, they come into the main room. To the left is a bulletin board with lists of books, covers, and current news posted thereon. The charging and receiving desk is to the right, forming an arc. There are three square tables, one round table, two desks for the librarians, and five book stands arranged about the room. The Young People's alcove is located on the left-hand side of the main room nearest Henritze Avenue. This alcove has enough space for approximately 3,000 books. It serves young people of about 15 to 18 years of age. Furnishings consist of three tables and the librarian's desk. Opposite the alcove are the reference collection and the adult fiction, which line the left wall to the stairway of the second floor. The section divided off at the front of the building, facing Pearl Road, is known as the Reading Room and is more private. In it is a case

which belongs to the Art Museum and which is kept for museum displays that are changed once a month. The children's room takes up considerable space at the rear of the library on the first floor. There are two librarians' desks and six miniature tables and chairs. The children served vary in age from pre-school to the eighth grade.

As visitors go up the two flights of steps to reach the second floor which covers only the rear of the library, they pause on the landing to look at a small table, loaded with displays and notices for the benefit of the selective service board now using an upstairs room, which originally was used as a lecture room. The entrance to another room faces the stairs; this room is used as a meeting place for various clubs. These two rooms can be made into one large room by sliding back the partition which separates them. The outside wall is of glass brick, thereby making the rows of chairs and desks much brighter. To the right, at the top of the steps, is a small locker room. There is also a staff room, with an electric kitchen for the use of the librarians, and a mending room.

Two small memorial collections are of special interest. The first, consisting of books on flowers and gardening, was given in honor of a former South Brooklyn branch librarian, Miss Mabel C. Smith, by her friends. The second, in honor of Mrs. Ella M. Estabrook, was sponsored by the Woman's Civic League of Brooklyn, of which she was president for a number of years. It has expensive reference books, dealing with antiques.

The present staff consists of one chief librarian, six full-time assistants, and two part-time assistants.

## OTHER PUBLIC SERVICES

### *The Fire Department*

The Fire Department of South Brooklyn was originated in 1876 by about thirty-five public-minded citizens who volunteered to stay at the station house. These volunteers formed a social club so that men would come to the station house and help the firemen if fire broke out.

The only paid members of the department were the chief and the captain. Their positions depended on their political standing. The volunteer firemen stayed at the station house two or three days or nights a week to offer protection to their community. If, after a rainy day, they were called out to fight a blaze, they would have to pull the hose down a muddy lane to the burning house because the horses could not manage the heavy hose-wagon through the mud. The horses stayed with the department until 1915, when the first motor pumper was acquired.

At the turn of the century the people of the community saw the need for a more efficient fire-fighting unit. They decided to pay the firemen for their work. To qualify for a position, a man had to pass a civil service test. Accepted applicants had to work three 24-hour days before they could get 24 hours off. On days off, men were asked to dig post holes for the fire-alarm boxes. In 1919, through a charter amendment, Cleveland voted through a measure which gave the firemen an eight-hour day. One and one-half years later, the state ordered a 24-on 24-off shift. This shift is still used at the present time. The men sleep at the station during the night, with a watchman on duty all of the time.

The first uniformed company in South Brooklyn had for their fire-fighting apparatus, one Babcock fire



extinguisher and a horse-drawn hook and ladder truck. In command were: William Beaser, chief; Fredrick Wirth, first assistant; John Sweisel, second assistant.

The present Brooklyn Station at 2310 Broadview was built in 1898. It at first was the Town Hall and housed the Village Council, Mayor's office, jail, and Police Department, as well as the Fire Department.

Many improvements have been added since these early days. A White Rotary pumper was delivered in 1922. In 1928, an American LaFrance pumper, capable of pumping 750 gallons of water in a minute, was purchased at a cost of \$7,000. The Brooklyn Station, in 1943, received from Station House No. 1 an American LaFrance pumper, valued at \$13,000, which is capable of pumping 1,000 gallons of water a minute. It has 1,000 feet of 2½ inch hose, 200 feet of 1½ inch hose, two hooks and axes, two extinguishers, two pumps, and a roof ladder.

There are one captain, two lieutenants, and fourteen men composing Engine Co. No. 37, to operate this equipment.

When one of the 150 alarms in South Brooklyn is pulled, the flash is sent to a central nerve center in downtown Cleveland. From here it is relayed to the outlying areas by a system called the Gamewell system. This system has a primary and a secondary circuit. The primary circuit taps out audibly the box number three times. The secondary circuit punches out the box number on a paper tape. This system is also used when the alarm is sent in by telephone. Since the central office has such nerve-racking work, the shift there is 8 hours on and 24 hours off.

When residence alarms are received, three pieces of apparatus (two pumpers, one hook-and-ladder) and a chief's car are dispatched. On a business section alarm, five pieces of apparatus (three pumpers, two hook-and-ladders) are sent out. When the fire is near a

hospital, school, theater, church, or other place of congregation, a rescue squad, also, is ordered out. This squad is composed of one lieutenant or captain in command of four men with modern first aid equipment including a pulmotor, an inhalator, and stretchers.

### *The Post Office*

The first post office in Brighton was established in 1836 with Samuel H. Barstow as postmaster. Available information indicates that the post office for this area always has been located near the Broadview-Pearl intersection although in a number of different buildings. At one time it was located in the Johnson Block. About 1917 it was moved to the building which now houses the Heidelberg Restaurant, where it remained until the opening of the present building at 4160 Pearl Road. The formal dedication of the present post office, was held October 17, 1936. Supreme Court Justice Harold H. Burton, then Mayor of Cleveland, was a speaker at this dedication program. The Brooklyn Post Office now serves an area larger than any other Cleveland post office. It has over one hundred employees. During the calendar year 1945 the money order sales at the Brooklyn Post Office were \$64,252 which amount was not equaled or exceeded by any other post office in the Cleveland area.

### *Municipal Electric Light and Power*

In 1902, the village of South Brooklyn pioneered in the building of a 225 kilowatt light plant from the proceeds of a \$30,000 bond issue. On January 1, 1906, after much campaigning on the part of Mayor Tom L. Johnson to obtain it, the city of Cleveland took over the operation of this plant upon the annexation of the village, and thereby started in the business of lighting city streets and furnishing light and power to its citizens.

City-owned electric light and power plants are still in operation in Cleveland.

By January of 1915, transmission lines from the new generating system to West 41st Street substation had been completed and the distribution system radiating from the South Brooklyn station had been rearranged so that all the current could be distributed into the system through the West 41st substation, and the South Brooklyn station was shut down.

### *Public Housing—Brooklyn Acres*

Brooklyn Acres, built with public funds, contains six hundred dwellings and covers an area of ninety acres. It was built exclusively for war workers and their families. The first family moved in on August 9, 1943. The project includes three types of dwellings: single houses, twin houses, and row houses. There are sixty one-bedroom units all in twin houses; 384 two-bedroom units some in twin houses and some in row houses; 156 three-bedroom units most of which are in single houses, with a few in twin houses. In addition to the bedrooms, each dwelling contains a living room, a kitchen large enough for dining purposes, a bathroom, a heater-room, and sufficient closets. The kitchen contains a gas cooking-range, electric refrigerator, and combination sink and laundry tub. The heater-room contains a coal-fired forced-warm-air furnace, gas hot-water heater, and storage space. The dwellings all have private entrances, abundant light, cross-ventilation, screened doors and windows, and attractively painted walls. Sufficient parking space is located adjacent to each dwelling. The Community Center and playgrounds offer unusual opportunities for adults' and children's recreational activities.

Brooklyn Acres is bounded on the north by Memphis Avenue, on the east by West 58th Street, and on



the west by Ridge Road, and extends almost to Bidulph Road on the south.

The monthly rents are:

3 Rooms..\$37.00	5 Rooms..\$43.00
4 Rooms.. 40.00	5 Rooms.. 46.00 (in single houses)

The rent includes gas for cooking and water-heating, electricity for lighting and refrigeration, and water. Coal for heating must be furnished by the resident.

### *Telephone Service*

When the first telephone service was opened in Cleveland in 1879, all subscribers were in downtown Cleveland. As the service expanded, an exchange was opened in 1881, across the Cuyahoga River at West 25th Street and Detroit Avenue. Since the city continued to expand southward, the South exchange was built at 3026 Scranton Road in 1899, to handle subscribers in that vicinity and in Brooklyn. This office consecutively bore the names of South, Harvard, Lincoln, and Atlantic.

In these days the prominent citizens each had two telephones, one served by the Cleveland Telephone Company, and the other by the Cuyahoga Telephone Company. These two companies were consolidated in 1921 as part of the Ohio Bell Telephone Company; from that date, one telephone system connected all subscribers.

As South Brooklyn became more and more densely populated, a new exchange building, Shadyside, was built at 4314 West 35th Street in 1926. Until 1940, all of the telephone service was manually operated.

In 1940, modern cross-bar dial equipment was installed and put into service for the subscribers of this part of Cleveland. So large has this office grown that it now is divided into three units—Shadyside, Florida, and Ontario—serving 18,400 subscribers.

### *Community Newspaper*

The *Brooklyn-Parma News Times*, the "Newspaper of Brooklyn, Parma, and Parma Heights" was founded on May 19, 1919, by a group of Brooklyn merchants. The purpose of the paper was to support local social organizations and enterprise, particularly the Y. M. C. A. of Brooklyn. The first editor, who still remains editor, is Mr. L. E. Frueh. At the present time the *Brooklyn-Parma News Times* is owned by a number of stockholders and the Business Men's Corporation of Ohio. It has a wide circulation in this area, and is an effective influence for community improvement.

### *The Cleveland Zoological Gardens*

In the summer of 1894, about eighty-one acres on either side of Big Creek were purchased to be used for Brooklyn's own recreation spot. Portions of this land were at one time included in the old Barker, Quirk, and Poe farms. Although the park, with its ample recreational facilities, was in itself an asset to Brooklyn, a further feature was added in 1908 and 1909, when animals were transferred from the Cleveland Zoo at Wade Park to Brookside. In 1913 and 1914 the finishing touches were added to the deer runs and bear caves, which occupied well-chosen spots on the cliffs surrounding the zoo proper. In 1915, Brookside Park was improved fourfold; the aquatic fowl were provided with a new pool, an artificial lake covering approximately four acres was built and stocked with 25,000 fish from Mantua, a West 25th street entrance to the park was added for the public's convenience, and a geyser fountain was invented and contributed by Councilman Charles Kohl of Cleveland. In 1940 the zoo was placed under the management of the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, and in 1945 its name was officially changed to the Cleveland Zoological Gardens. During

Brookside Park's history the original tract of land was doubled in size, so that it now covers over 160 acres.

Today, as always, Brookside Park is a favorite gathering place for young and old, in summer and winter. Ice skating, skiing, tobogganing, baseball, and hiking are but a few of the sports enjoyed at Brookside—a country paradise in the midst of a bustling city.

## WELFARE ORGANIZATIONS

### *Deaconess Hospital*

The greatest Healer of all has been dead for nearly twenty centuries, but His spirit still carries on in our great modern institutions of healing. For twenty-five years, since December 5, 1920, Evangelical Deaconess Hospital has been one of these. Into its outstretched arms have come those in need—the sick, the maimed, and those awaiting birth. It has grown from the humble beginning of a converted dwelling of 28 beds to a modern hospital of 164 beds.

This house of healing was born in the minds of members of "The Evangelical Deaconess Society of Cleveland," organized November 17, 1914. The first steps were taken on June 8, 1919, when the Society purchased the Johnson property on Pearl Road.

Since March 1, 1925, the Rev. Armin B. Kitterer has assisted and guided this institution as superintendent. He has seen it grow from a simple frame house to the present modern building, which was dedicated on October 21, 1928.

Serving the entire portion of South Brooklyn, the institution is endowed with all the facilities of a modern hospital. It is a city within a city, having its own laundry, which supplies the hospital with approximately 35,000 pounds of clean linen every month, and its own dietary department, serving 160,000 meals a year. Its



surgeons are equipped with two large operating rooms furnished with all the necessary equipment, including a modern operating table costing \$800. For diagnosis and treatment it has an X-ray machine and recently-improved laboratory.

Through such ever-improving modern devices, it continues to serve humanity in the ancient ministry of healing.

### *Young Women's Christian Association*

On December 12, 1944, the members and friends of the Brooklyn branch of the Y. W. C. A. gathered to celebrate the completion of its first quarter century. To be perfectly accurate, however, it must be said that it had not been a separate branch of the Y. W. C. A. for quite twenty-five years.

In December, 1919, Mrs. Ella Estabrook, then president of the Woman's Civic League, appointed a committee for women's and girls' work, to carry on an educational and recreational program, a community service which had the help of a worker at the West Side branch of the Y. W. C. A.

The work was first housed in the headquarters of the Civic League on Broadview Road. Mrs. Estabrook was made chairman of the committee in charge; Mrs. M. R. Kellum, vice-chairman; Mrs. M. R. Geiger, treasurer, and Mrs. J. H. String, executive secretary, giving half-time service at the headquarters office. Other members of that first committee were Mrs. J. S. Eaton, Mrs. Martin Ruetenik, Mrs. G. C. Glynn, Mrs. A. E. Robertson, Mrs. C. H. Miller, Mrs. J. H. Rosenberg, and Mrs. Koepke.

It was in September 1921, that Brooklyn was organized as a separate branch of the Y. W. C. A. Mrs. Howard Chester became chairman of the Committee of Management and served seven years, the longest term

in the history of the organization Her successor, Mrs. E. G. Barrett, served for five years, the next longest term.

During its twenty-five years, the Brooklyn Y. W. C. A. has been housed in several places in the Pearl Road-Broadview district. Leaving the original office in the Civic League headquarters, it was moved to the Miller Block on Broadview Road. In 1925, it was moved to the old Broadview-Pearl building, above Hagedorn's Drug Store. When it became known that the building was to be torn down, the Y. W. C. A. took over in 1928 the second floor of the building at 4145 Pearl Road, which is still its headquarters.

The members of the early business girls' clubs will remember some additional space which they had for a period of five years. Mr. Ebenzer Fish gave the Y. W. C. A. the use of his property on Jennings Road. The Y. W. C. A. purchased a tent, which the girls called "Bide-A-Wee Cottage," where they had many pleasant outings, in spite of the difficulty of keeping the tent up during hard storms.

Many of the early members of the Brooklyn branch will recall the first professional staff: Miss Vida Sanderson, the first full-time executive-secretary, and Miss Isabel Frame who for more than ten years was in charge of the Girl Reserve Clubs and director of health education. Miss Dorothy Karl, now Mrs. Darmour, was the first office secretary.

It would be impossible to mention all the professional staff members, who later carried on the work begun by these three. Some were here very briefly, others served for terms of many years. A few came as "Fellows in Training," giving part-time while they were students at Western Reserve's School of Applied Social Science. All have made important contributions.

From the beginning the Brooklyn Y. W. C. A. has sponsored clubs for school girls, business girls, and

home women, and has carried on recreational and educational work. Always there have been "gym" classes, athletic teams, dancing, music classes, etc.

At first the Girl Reserve Clubs were formed in the local junior high schools. In 1927, a club was organized in Parma High School; in 1932 Rhodes High School was opened and since then there have been flourishing Friendship Clubs in both of these schools.

Twenty-five years ago the business girls had their Four-Leaf Clover Club. Old groups break up, and new interests, new needs, and new members bring about the formation of new clubs. The following have all served the business girls of this community: Crescent Club, Lambda Alpha, Music and Friendship Club, Interim, Tawasi, Desma and Par-Rho. For many years there was a very strong organization of the older women, known as the Athletic Club, made up of members of the ladies' health education classes.

Today the Brooklyn Y. W. C. A. is proud of its membership of five hundred; of its nine Girl Reserve and Friendship Clubs, now including clubs in Brooklyn Village, Brecksville, and Independence; of its weekly Hobby House and summer program for younger girls; of its three Business Girls' Clubs; and of its large and active Pre-School Mothers' Club. It is proud, too, of its twenty-six years of history and of the many women and girls who have served as its volunteers to carry out its program of community service and cooperation, and to advance the national program of the Y. W. C. A. and its international program of World Fellowship.

### *Young Men's Christian Association*

In 1921 a lack of adequate recreational facilities in the South Brooklyn area led a group of citizens to ask the Central Y. M. C. A. to establish a branch here. The branch was organized and Karl Kist was placed in charge. The new organization was housed in the



present Y. W. C. A. rooms. Its original purpose was to provide wholesome Christian recreational activities for boys of the community. The present improved and expanded three-fold program works to promote happy, healthful, Christian living among the boys, young men, and adults of the community. At present it is located in the Pearl Road Methodist Church, 4200 Pearl Road.

### *Girl Scouts*

Girl scouting is designed to help girls become healthier, happier individuals, more successful homemakers, and intelligent, active citizens of the world. The goals are unchanging, but the ways of achieving them change with the times.

The first Girl Scout troop in the South Brooklyn area was organized at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church in 1930 with Miss Betty Senko and Miss Dorothy Lewis as leaders. At present there are sixteen troops in this community with a membership of well over three hundred girls. Two troops are located at Brooklyn Acres and the other six are at various churches throughout the community.

### *Boy Scouts*

The first Boy Scout troop in the South Brooklyn area was organized at South Hills Baptist Church in 1926. Since that time there have been organized eight additional Scout troops, serving 467 boys, and three Cub packs serving 138 younger boys. During the past year, Scout troops of this area have done their full share in helping District 4, of which they are a part, to lead the Cleveland Council in such scouting achievements as number of boys in camps, and number of court-awards promotions.

## CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS

*The Brooklyn Kiwanis Club* was organized in 1925, with Frank Johnson as president and with a membership of twenty. The present membership is eighty-nine. The club's aims are to promote the welfare of underprivileged children in the community, to encourage higher social, business, and professional standards, and to create more intelligent, aggressive, and serviceable citizenship.

*The Business and Professional Women's Club* was organized in 1931 to promote and further worthwhile community projects. Edith Woodburn was the first president. The club had thirty-six charter members.

*The Brooklyn Business Chamber* was organized in 1919 with a membership consisting of some sixty merchants of the community. At present there are 185 members pursuing the Chamber's aim of bringing commerce to Brooklyn and of promoting worthwhile activity in the community.

*The Brooklyn Exchange Club* was founded in 1928 with twenty-five members and Charles Chuhna as president. Today the club has eighty-five members. The club's function is to help make the community a better place in which to live.

*The American Legion*—Post 233—originated shortly after World War I. It has from 250 to 300 members, who meet at the Brooklyn Y. W. C. A.

## LANDMARKS

### *The Johnson House*

The old Johnson House, which covered the site at Broadview and Pearl Roads, where the Broadview

branch of the Cleveland Trust Company now stands, was a widely known institution in its day. Built about 1890 by J. L. Johnson, a "forty-niner," and grandfather of Mayor Johnson of Parma, and John Johnson, the Johnson House was the over-night stopping place for the farmers of the Medina-Richfield-Brecksville-Strongsville communities en route to the Cleveland markets. The farmers drove their loaded wagons as far as the Johnson House, where they "put up" for the night, and next morning before sun up, departed for market. The Johnson House was the news center of the communities for many miles around and its existence did much to aid in the development of the community in the days before the automobile.

### *The Gates Elevator*

The Gates Elevator and Mills Company building was constructed in 1893 by H. C. Gates, on a site which now is covered by the Pearl Road entrance to Brookside Park. Upon the completion of the elevator, Philip J. Fild and J. F. Schnabel joined in partnership with Mr. Gates to form the above-mentioned company. When the second high-level bridge was built, the building which housed the elevator and mill was moved down into the valley to make way for the new steel bridge. The people of the township soon discontinued their trade with the mill, because it was too difficult for them to get their loaded wagons up the steep Brookside drive. The building eventually was abandoned and a new one constructed at 3110 Broadview Road. This mill still is doing business as the Gates branch of the Sheets Elevator Company.

### *The Johnson Block*

The Johnson Block adjoined the Johnson House on the north, on the site of the present Brooklyn Furni-



ture Company. The new Johnson Block was built in 1903 on the southwest corner of Pearl and Broadview.

### *The Krather Block*

The Krather Block still stands on Pearl Road between Krather Avenue and Henninger. It housed the first hardware store in South Brooklyn, Henninger & Decker, which firm is still located in this building.

### *The Odd Fellows Hall*

The I. O. O. F. Hall was located on the southwest corner of Broadview and Pearl, where the Marshall Drug Store now stands. The ground floor was occupied at first by Schmitt's Pharmacy, operated by Carl Schmitt; later this space housed the first South Brooklyn store of the F. H. Bader Pharmacy. At that time this location was identified as the corner of Pearl Street and Brookmere Avenue.

### *The Home of John L. Johnson*

The home of John L. Johnson, birthplace of former Parma Mayor Frank D. Johnson, still stands beside Deaconess Hospital and is used as a nurses' home.

### *The Home of Charles Gates*

The home of Charles Gates stood across the street from the Johnson home, the property including the corner where the Glenn Restaurant now stands.

### *Streets*

The names of streets in the South Brooklyn area have undergone a series of changes. To attract residents in large numbers, free mail delivery was necessary. To secure such delivery, it was necessary to rename many streets in order to avoid duplication with nearby areas,

especially in Cleveland, in which the mail service already was established.

Thus about 1906, the new name "Broadview" was applied to the original Broad Street, so called because it was the widest thoroughfare in its district. Broadview continues to be the main artery leading through Brooklyn Heights from Pearl Road to the southeast.

The much narrower Mechanic Street, running westward from Columbus Street to Brookmere Cemetery, which overlooks Brookside Park, was recognized as an approximate extension of Broad, and it too now goes by the name of Broadview.

Mill Street of the older days is now Memphis Avenue, a street that is rapidly being built up, not only because of the westward expansion of the Pearl Street business district, but also because of the eastward expansion of the war-fostered bomber plant and aircraft laboratory in the Brookpark-Rocky River area and of the corresponding housing projects, including the United States-sponsored Brooklyn Acres. Memphis Avenue continues westward beyond the city limits, through Brooklyn Village and Linndale, turning northward and becoming West 117th Street, old Highland Avenue, the city limit between Cleveland and Lakewood.

Jefferson Street has become Revere Court. It joins Washington Avenue to form a large Y beginning several blocks west of Pearl and continuing northwestward to the northwest limits of the old village of Brighton. The stem of the Y is called Krather Avenue.

Columbus Street, one of the longest and broadest streets, has been renamed Pearl Road. It is the main artery through Brooklyn, with State Road joining it to form a Y. The stem of the Y is now known as West 25th Street, which follows through till it reaches the Public Square. Continuing in a southwest direction from Brooklyn, Pearl Road, now also Federal Highway No. 42, is a four-lane superhighway heavily trav-

eled by interstate trucks and busses as well as by private vehicles.

At three distinct periods in Cleveland's history there have been additional changes in the names of streets, as well as in the streets themselves. A detailed history of these changes may be found in *Street Names of Cleveland and Vicinity* by Walter August Peters, Western Reserve University Bulletin, Volume XXX, No. 7, July, 1927.

## GREENHOUSES

Two industries that have grown up with South Brooklyn are the truck garden and greenhouse enterprises along Schaaf Road. Here on the rich bottom lands north of Schaaf and on the high, dry, rich soil south of this now-famous road is raised a large share of the fresh vegetables that supply the people of Cleveland during the outdoor growing season. During the winter months, Clevelanders have the opportunity to purchase fresh home-grown tomatoes, lettuce, radishes, and cucumbers in their neighborhood stores, the majority of these fresh vegetables being grown in the eighty acres of greenhouses that are sprinkled over the land north and south of the road. Probably no other area in the world as small as the Schaaf Road area contains as many acres under glass.

Isaac Hinckley, a Yankee from Connecticut, was the first white person to break ground on what is now Schaaf Road. He settled here on 360 acres with his family in 1814, "a mile from anybody." The Schaaf Road area was strictly wilderness then. In 1820, Edwin Foote was rewarded with 640 acres of choice land adjoining Hinckley's farm on the east, for surveying this area. These two settlers controlled the majority of the land now included in the gardening district, having possession of land north and south of Schaaf, approxi-



mately from West 11th Street to the top of Schaaf Road hill.

At that time there wasn't any road, but later a dirt wagon trail was laid out between Broadview and Independence Road. Before the plank road was laid, each settler cared for the section of dirt road that touched his property. Gradually relatives and friends of the original settlers sliced off chunks of the original farms. These thrifty German and Yankee pioneers found the sandy dry soil well suited to grain and dairy farms. The name Schaaf was attached to the road when a large German family by the name of Schaaf settled near the intersection of Brookpark and Schaaf. The reason advanced for so naming the street is that, because of the large number of Schaaf children that passed through Brooklyn, whenever a man who resided on this turnpike was asked on what road he lived, he promptly replied, "Schaaf Road."

Market gardening was first attempted by Alfred Tilton and J. L. Foote around 1860. Melons and general vegetables were the first commercial crops attempted by these men. Early market gardeners retailed their produce off horse or ox-drawn wagons at traveled intersections downtown. The loads were put up during the day, and at dawn the next morning the farmers would hitch the horses or oxen to the loaded wagons, head the team out into the lane onto Schaaf Road, thence on down West 25th Street, arriving at their stands on Public Square, or where Central Market stands today. Housewives bought fresh vegetables right off the tailgates of these market wagons.

In 1887, the Schaaf Road area was introduced to the then-infant industry, vegetable forcing under glass, by Gustave Ruetenik and sons. Rueteniks constructed their first 50 foot by 11 foot greenhouse of sashwood and glass at a cost of \$100. This small house was flue-heated. Lettuce was grown on benches erected in the green-

house, while the space under the benches was fully utilized by raising rhubarb, which was well adapted to warm, damp, dark spots. This first greenhouse was conceived by Mr. Ruetenik from a horticulture book published in 1884 by Peter Henderson of seed fame. T. W. James is also credited with building a small greenhouse on Schaaf Road in 1887.

The greenhouse industry, still on weak experimental legs, progressed slowly. Other farmers, including Gene Cook, J. L. Foote, F. C. Wutrich, H. H. Richardson, August Cook, P. L. Hinckley, Simeon Chester, and William Fish, raised small houses, but none of these growers wished to depend entirely on a greenhouse income; consequently the industry was thinly spread over the district. Tomatoes were introduced into greenhouses in 1905. Commercial growers organized societies around 1910, in which they exchanged ideas and were introduced to new and tested methods by experts. The industry grew faster and faster as more new methods were proved successful for commercial growers. Today greenhouses in this area represent an investment of several million dollars.

Schaaf Road has devoted its available land exclusively to raising vegetables, indoors and outdoors, winter and summer. This fresh produce finds its way to most Cleveland homes as well as to homes in all the major cities of the East, where it is shipped by the truck load. Farming on Schaaf Road has ceased to be an occupation for the uneducated person but rather an industry carried on in a scientific manner by highly specialized men. This district owes its prominent place in the development of South Brooklyn to those plucky pioneers who braved failure, tough problems, and ridicule in raising the truck-farming and greenhouse industries to their present levels.



## TRANSPORTATION

The first lines of travel through the unbroken wilderness were Indian trails that marked the wandering of the red man. These primitive roads were merely ribbons of clearings through the forest, and where the land was low and swampy, logs were used. At times, planks eight to twelve feet long were placed across timbers two feet by forty. One end was fastened down, the other being left free to rise and fall with the freezing and thawing of the mud underneath. These were the initial paved roads.

There were several such roads in South Brooklyn's early history, chief of which was the toll road then known as Columbus Street, now Pearl Road. Its toll gate was at the southwest end of the road between the present Woburn and Brooklyn Avenues, approximately where the Weber Bakery now stands. The original toll road ran one-half mile past the gate, ending in the center of the village. The plank road on the other side of the toll gate ran south for about five miles.

The toll rates, taken from an original wooden placard now at the Western Reserve Historical Museum are quoted below:

For every Horse, Mule, or Ass Led or Driven .....	1c
For every Head of Neat Cattle .....	1/3c
For every Head of Sheep or Hogs .....	1/6c
For every Stage Coach, Hack, or Omnibus Drawn by 2 Horses .....	12c
For every Horse in Addition .....	3c
For every Bicycle, Tricycle, or Velocipede .....	4c
For every Wagon, Carriage, or Buggy drawn by 1 Horse.	5c
For every Wagon, Carriage, or Buggy drawn by 2 Horses	10c
For every Horse in Addition .....	3c
For every Sled or Sleigh drawn by 1 Horse .....	4c
For every Sled or Sleigh drawn by 2 Horses.....	6c
For every Horse in Addition .....	3c
For every Horse and Rider .....	4c



For every Carriage and Wagon or Cart Drawn by 1 Horse	9c
For every Wagon or Cart Drawn by 2 Horses or Oxen not used for the Conveyance of Passengers	12c
For every Horse or Oxen in Addition	7c
For every Sled or Sleigh Drawn by 1 Horse	7c
For every Horse in Addition	3½c
For 1 Horse and Rider	6c

On the reverse side of the placard is a similar schedule, with most of the rates higher. It has not been possible to determine which of the two sides was used first, nor whether the variation in prices was peculiar to the toll road or merely symptomatic of general economic conditions.

For every Mule or Ass Led or Driven, 6 Months Old & Upward	1½c
For every Head of Neat Cattle	½c
For every Head of Sheep or Hogs	¼c
For every Stage Coach, Hack or Omnibus for Pleasure or for Conveyance of Passengers Drawn by 2 Horses	8c
For every Horse in Addition	7c
Other vehicle for Pleasure or Carrying of Passengers Drawn by 2 Horses	15c
For every Horse in Addition	7c
For every Other Than Through Travel 1/6 of the above Tolls	
For every Mile and at that Rate for a Greater or Less Distance	

Travelers who wished to avoid paying the toll, went around by Ridge Road and Memphis Avenue. Ridge Road, as a result, received the epithet "Shun Pike."

Other toll roads in the vicinity of South Brooklyn were State Road, Broadview Road, and a privately-constructed one on Schaaf Road beginning at Broadview.

After the turn of the century, roads had to be improved with the advent of the motor-coughing, rumbling automobile. These "horseless buggies," driven by duster-clad maniacs, "would zoom around corners, frightening the horses and passersby."

In 1903, South Brooklyn led this section of the nation in the use of bituminous macadam pavements. Such pavements were used on Pearl Street to where State Road forks off, and then on State Road for some distance to the south.

Before streetcars made their debut, a bridge across Big Creek valley connecting Brooklyn township with South Brooklyn was needed to facilitate traffic from the surrounding country to the south. The first Brooklyn-Brighton Bridge to span the Big Creek valley was a low, all-wood affair that went above the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad tracks. At the time it was built, it was suggested that the money to pay for it be raised by a one dollar round-trip boat excursion to Put-in-Bay.

The second Brooklyn-Brighton Bridge was built when J. C. Alexander was president of the Board of County Commissioners. This 1,575 foot long bridge had an all-steel frame, which was something unique in the days of 1897.

The bridge struck out from a grade slightly lower than Denison Avenue and the southern end of West 25th Street to a point in the southernmost hill of the ravine in South Brooklyn. The cost was estimated at \$160,000.

As this latter bridge was being torn down, another larger bridge was steadily rising toward the sky. This present-day structure was completed in 1916 by the Bates & Rogers Construction Company of Chicago at a cost of \$571,057. It is a handsome and substantial structure of reinforced concrete with eighteen arches to support the traffic going from West 25th Street in old Brooklyn to Pearl Road in South Brooklyn. The length of the bridge in feet is 1,726.

In 1912, the streetcar line of the Cleveland Railway Company was extended over the bridge as far as West 35th Street, which, at that time, was known as State Road. Probably the first streetcars that rattled to



South Brooklyn were of a style called the Peter Witt. They were the first of the front-and-center door type of streetcar. It might be noted that old dobbin continued to be a popular figure on Cleveland streets for many years, but not in front of the streetcars, as they once were when they had the task of pulling the vehicles.

In 1914, the trolley went as far as the present-day carhouse, then over a strip of land till it reached Pearl Road, from where it proceeded back toward Cleveland, completing a triangle.

On May 28, 1915, the Cleveland Council passed an ordinance authorizing the Railway Company to build a double-track extension on West 35th Street from Pearl Road to the city limits near what is now called Brookpark Road.

As more people settled in South Brooklyn, City Council recognized the need for a double-track extension on Pearl Road from existing tracks on West 35th Street and southward to the city limits. On July 17, 1916, the Council granted the right for the tracks to be laid, and soon the railway company had two streetcar lines running to the city limits at Brookpark Road.

Naturally, as the years went on, new tracks were laid intermittently until we have the comparatively serviceable tracks of today. A new track laid on West 35th Street in 1917 cost \$721.11, which at that time was quite expensive. Also in this year, the land where the old streetcars crossed over to Pearl Road was purchased at a price of \$1,490, and within a year construction was under way for building a substation, the West 35th Street Carhouse. Tracks also extended easterly on Broadview Road to Schaaf, with the first streetcar rumbling over them about June 1, 1922.

Not long afterward, in 1926, motor coaches were in use on Cleveland streets, and shortly thereafter, a bus line extended on Memphis Avenue from Broadview and Pearl to Ridge Road, a distance of about three miles.



The original bridge on Ridge Road spanning Big Creek was a death trap to many motorists and pedestrians, because of the severe curves at its approaches. In the year 1922, a new bridge was built at the cost of \$220,000, forty-two feet wide, to give automobiles ample space to make a turn on the bridge itself. This 1700-foot long bridge had six reinforced concrete arches and was acclaimed by many as ideal. When the bridge was completed, the Memphis bus line was extended so that it went over the bridge to Denison Avenue.

Midway between the Brooklyn-Brighton Bridge and the Ridge Road Bridge, is still another, the busy Fulton Bridge which divides Brookside Park in half. When it was suggested in 1930 that such a bridge be constructed, there was much bickering over the matter. However, the opponents finally gave in, and the one-thousand foot long and one-hundred foot wide bridge was constructed by the Hunkin-Conkey Construction Company. It is a concrete-reinforced bridge, paved with brick. When the project was completed and was formally opened on August 9, 1932, there was much celebrating. There were parades, speeches, and wild rejoicing, for once again, man's engineering skill had conquered the vastness of the Big Creek valley.

A bus line from Denison Avenue was installed so that transportation service was offered to the Brooklyn residents. The route came over the bridge as far as Ardmore Avenue until 1942, when it was extended to Pearl Road via Fulton Avenue for the benefit of students attending William Rainey Harper Junior High School and James Ford Rhodes High School.

Brooklyn residents have all the conveniences of modern transportation, namely the automobile, the streetcar, and the motor coach. They do not have to make their way through forests and travel on plank roads as did their forebears. Yes, South Brooklyn is a thriving community and possibly in the future, the air-

plane will take its place beside the most common present day vehicles as every day transportation for the ordinary citizen.

### *IN CONCLUSION*

Time marches on—or, as the relativistic philosophers insist—time, a concept devised by man for his own convenience, stands still, while men and events march through it.

Certain it is that the South Brooklyn of the present differs vastly from the South Brooklyn of the past. The one-room school has evolved into a complex institution endeavoring to meet the complex needs of all the children of all the people. The early churches have developed into places of worship that recognize man's physical, mental and social problems and believe that his spiritual welfare consists in more than his indoctrination in fire and brimstone. The first modest book-loan service has grown into a public library that not only enables anyone to read for education or for recreation throughout his entire lifetime, but through pictures, records, clubs, contests, and exhibits, provides a variety of other services as well. The kindly housewife who hustled down a muddy path with a jar of homemade broth in one hand and a sheaf of her voluminous trailing skirt in the other, has given way to a modern housewife who, while still taking a kindly interest in her own immediate friends, in addition contributes to a Community Fund used for the welfare of unknown neighbors in her community who are in need of assistance. The hardy pioneer who constructed his own log cabin from the logs from the trees on his own property has been followed by a war worker who moved into one of a long row of houses constructed for him by his federal government by means of tax-collected funds, and who, if his home should burn, would rely on a fire-hose



instead of the chain of water buckets of himself and his neighbors, and who, instead of carrying his fowling-piece whenever venturing into the forest surrounding his door, must repair to the community zoological garden for a glimpse of wild life. Old landmarks such as grist mills and stage-coach inns have been replaced by new ones such as supermarkets and superservice gas stations. The farmer who raised crops for "me, my wife, and my son John, and his wife," is represented in South Brooklyn only by the part-time victory gardener, and by the "greenhouser" of the Schaaf Road district who raises celery by the ton upon ton, to supply the markets of Cleveland proper and many miles beyond. The old plank toll road has become a superhighway, and the men who walked from Connecticut to the Western Reserve are replaced by a race who travel by motor car, airplane, train, ship, motorcycle, streetcar or bus, while constructing elaborate gymnasiums, playgrounds, athletic fields, and reducing-salons for purposes of deliberate (and, for school-children, state-required) exercise.

Accompanying these changes in school, church, library, welfare and civic agencies, landmarks, agriculture, and transportation, has come a corresponding basic change in the outlook of the people. The rugged individualism of the pioneer has evolved until each straight-thinking individual in modern society feels himself bound by ties of kinship not only to his own family, not only to his own immediate neighbors and friends, not only to his own fellow-citizens of ward and district, of city and state and nation. He feels himself bound as well to his fellow citizens, regardless of race, creed, color, nationality, or place of abode. He feels that his individualism is greater rather than less, when instead of being applied in comparative isolation it is applied as an integral and indispensable part of the



social fabric of the world in which he lives—One World.

And that One World—what will it be like? What will be South Brooklyn's part in it, and mine, and yours?

Since this book deals primarily not with prospect but with retrospect, we shall make no attempt to answer those questions. But as we salute the men and events who have marched through time into the South Brooklyn of the present, we realize that we ourselves are marching into the unforeseeable but not completely unenvisionable future.



## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We of James Ford Rhodes High School are deeply grateful to the many persons and organizations, both within the school and within the community outside of the school (not all of whom, unfortunately, can be mentioned here) who have given generously of their time and interest in their attempt to assist us in the preparation of this book.

To Mr. J. Milton Busch we owe a special indebtedness, for it was two maps of old Brooklyn located in the basement of the G. H. Busch and Sons Funeral Home which furnished the original inspiration for the book itself.

Unusual interest and cooperation was displayed, too, by Mr. George B. McIntyre, who, in his attempt to help us find a reason for the choice of the name, Brighton, boarded a train for Columbus, Ohio, and came back, not with the information he sought, but with a transcript of the articles of incorporation of the village of Brighton.

Then there is Miss Louise Dentzer, retired South Brooklyn school teacher, to whom we owe apologies as well as gratitude, for we were inexcusably late in returning to her two pictures which she so kindly lent us,—those of Pearl School, 1889, and of Pearl Street High School, 1903.

Others in the community and outside, who rendered valuable service are: Mr. Thomas A. Knight, field secretary of the Western Reserve Historical Association, author of the pamphlet *Picturesque South Brooklyn Village*, one of our sources of information; Mr. Frank Johnson, former Mayor of Parma; Mr. Harvey Webster, retired manager of the Broadview branch of the Cleveland Trust Company; Mr. L. E. Frueh, editor of the Brooklyn-Parma News-Times; Mr. John Borza, of the Educational Museum, who helped reproduce the pictures; and Mr. Herbert J. Coates, Mrs. Daisy Chandler, Mr. B. L. Richardson, and Mr. R. G. Schulke who lent such material as pictures, maps, and reference books.

Within the school, too, many persons have helped us. Chief among these is the principal, Mr. Neil D. Mathews, without whose patient and determined efforts the book would never have come into



being. Next, perhaps, is Mr. D. W. Van Kannel, printing teacher, an "old Settler" himself, who both conceived the idea of printing a historical record in old-fashioned type and also supervised the work of so printing it. Members of his printing classes who helped run off the 75,000 or more printing impressions required, include the following pupils who gave freely of their own time to assure publication on schedule: Ray Zenkert, Robert Krieger, Glenn Mair, Edward Kowalski, Glen Kiesel, Clarence Williams, Don Neuzil, Frank White, Frank Dydek, Richard Ptacek.

Chief typists were: Mrs. Betty O'Boyle, principal clerk; Miss Marie Kosar, junior clerk; Elma Ludwig and Lois Walter. Assistant typists included members of Miss Eleanor Davis' typing classes and members of Miss Besse Simpson's Writers' Workshop class.

Assisting in compilation of material, through library research and through personal interview, were members of the Writers' Workshop class, enrolled either during the second half of the first semester or during the first half of the second semester of the school year 1945-46, with four members enrolled during both of the two half-semester periods. The total list follows: Daniel Balog, Don Buchholz, Ronald Carr, Evelyn Dracon, Leo Friedel, Walter Gates, Marion Gell, Eleanor Hulesh, Dorothy Jarmusik, Norella-Lee Jedlick, Lois Kendziora, Lois Kestner, Betty Kloos, Ernest Lannoch, Clifford Mager, Ruth Merkle, Robert Meixner, Robert Obojski, Albert Pretzer, Russell Reinke, Richard Reiss, Neil Richardson, Elva Rogers, Mildred Rosemann, Joan Sagan, Richard Schuller, Lavelda Siemon, Ralph Stipley, Edward Vozar, and Thomas Ziegler.

Assisting in editing were Miss Besse Simpson and Mr. Eugene H. Hartzell, head of the English department.

We regret that it has been impossible to secure the approval of each individual concerned with the content of what we have printed. We regret the errors and omissions, unavoidable and perhaps avoidable, that mar the work. The material has been collected and summarized by a number of different pupils, none of whom had had previous training and experience in activity of this type, working in short-unit shifts, and without the supervision of a teacher experi-

enced in research writing of historical content. Little attempt has been made to reduce these individual reports to a uniform style.

The amount of space devoted to a particular subject, while often a measure of the material available, is in no sense an indication of the degree of importance which we attach to that particular subject.

---

Textual sources of information include: *Early History of Cleveland*, Col. Charles Whittlesey; *Atlas of Cuyahoga County*, Titus, Simmons and Titus—1874; *History of Cuyahoga County*, Crisfield Johnson—1879; *A History of Cleveland*, James H. Kennedy—1896; *A History of Cleveland, Ohio*, Samuel Orth—1910; *Cleveland and Cuyahoga County*, Wm. R. Coates—1924; *Early History of the Cleveland Public Schools*, Andrew Freese—1876.

---

To all who have helped us, and most especially to you who read this book, we of James Ford Rhodes High School are glad to express our gratitude, our appreciation, and our hope that you will find herein some information that will make you feel yourself a connecting link between the Brooklyn of the future and the Brooklyn of the past.









